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# THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY/PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

## 1,500 Blacks launch independent party

### Set national convention for 1981

By Nan Bailey

PHILADELPHIA—Fifteen hundred Black activists met here November 21-23 at a convention that founded the National Black Independent Political Party.

Convention delegates represented a broad cross-section of the Black community.

They came from at least twenty-five states and the District of Columbia. They included activists from community organizations, religious, student, and socialist groups.

Black unionists attended, along with scores of activists affiliated with no organized groups.

Noticeably few Black elected officials were here.

Convention coordinator Ron Daniels spoke at a press conference the day before the convention opened. He voiced a prominent

concern of the activists meeting here:

"We gather here as the Ku Klux Klan and the Nazi Party and other violent, anti-Black hate groups . . . are running wild in America."

Daniels listed as evidence the murders of Black men in Buffalo, Black children in Atlanta, and the shooting of Urban League leader Vernon Jordan.

He denounced the "recent decision in Greensboro, North Carolina, where an all-white jury acquitted six members of the Ku Klux Klan and the Nazi Party in the savage murder of five members of the Communist Workers Party."

"There is a growing climate breeding conspiracy to deprive Black people of their civil rights, human rights, and even our very existence," said Daniels.

"A national government which initiated the

vicious Cointelpro against Afro-Americans and militant forces working for civil rights and human rights in the 1960s and 1970s is unwilling to thwart the KKK's plans for guerilla warfare and destruction of Black people.

"But moments of great danger are also moments of great opportunity," said Daniels.

"The independent National Black Political Party, which we gather to give form and direction to this weekend, must be at the center of a new national mobilization and campaign against racism."

The new party must "bring massive and unrelenting pressure on the government at all levels to bring to heel the murderers in Greensboro, and the KKK, Nazis, and Klan-like, Nazi-like groups all across this land," Daniels said.

Zoharah Simmons, another convention coor-

*Continued on page 4*

## Nicaraguan workers & peasants answer counterrevolutionary threat



May 1 demonstration in Managua against counterrevolutionary provocations. On November 19, 100,000 marched against new threats to revolution. See page 7.

Perspectiva Mundial/Alan Martin



## Confrontation grows in Central America

Reports in this and last week's *Militant* show the increasing number of provocations against the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua.

Prominent businessmen there admitted financing and organizing a counterrevolutionary conspiracy.

Coffee plantation owner Jorge Salazar was killed in a confrontation with government security forces November 17. He had six M-16 rifles in his car and maps showing where more weapons were to be brought into the country.

The working people responded massively in defense of their revolution. Demonstrations took place in cities throughout the country November 19, with 100,000 in Managua.

Meanwhile Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary activity is being stepped up in this country. A November 18 report in the *Miami Herald* said that Somoza's son and others formed what they call the "Revolutionary Liberal Movement" in Miami November 16. They say they want to present Ronald Reagan with a "viable" alternative to the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

The exiles announced that long-time Reagan fund-raiser Alton Ochsner will represent them.

A *New York Times* editorial November 21 warned the Sandinistas to stop "harassing and intimidating the private-sector opposition." There was no warning to the private sector to stop threatening the Sandinista revolution.

The *Times* editors went so far as to justify Salazar's counterrevolutionary plot. They tried to portray an increasingly repressive Nicaragua:

"Political meetings have been restricted. Critical newspapers have been censored. Former political prisoners have been rearrested. And rumors are rife in private-sector organizations that top officers of the Chamber of Commerce, the Rice Growers' Association and the largest private coffee growers' cooperative have been taken into custody. In this context, Mr. Salazar's alleged conduct would certainly be understandable."

And the *Wall Street Journal's* lead editorial November 25 called on the Reagan administration to return to a policy of "containment" of revolution, a policy "which had taken such a beating after Americans turned against the Vietnam war." The revolutions the *Journal*

says it is most anxious to "contain" now are Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Meanwhile, as threats mount against Nicaragua, a civil war rages in El Salvador.

The U.S.-backed Salvadoran military junta is using deadly repression to stay in power. Catholic Church sources estimate the death toll for November at around 1,000.

But terror is not defeating the revolution. The latest government attempt to take the liberated area in Morazan province in northern El Salvador was unsuccessful.

The businessmen plotters in Nicaragua admitted ties with the military juntas in El Salvador and Honduras.

The outcome in El Salvador will have a big impact on Nicaragua's future. Just as the Sandinista revolution has been a prime inspiration for the Salvadoran freedom fighters.

Troops of other countries are being trained by the United States on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques and in the Canal Zone for use in Central America. U.S. advisers have been spotted with government troops in El Salvador.

The army of Honduras is helping the junta in El Salvador. The Honduran army is aiding the counterrevolutionaries attacking Nicaragua. U.S. military aid to Honduras has been stepped up.

The threat remains of a new Vietnam in Central America if Washington tries to use American troops.

Without Reagan and his gang even in office yet, the Democratic-controlled Senate and House approved a military budget between \$157.5 and \$161.1 billion, the highest in history.

Increasing amounts of this money will be used to wage war against the workers and peasants of Central America.

One way or another, the U.S. government is increasing its support for right-wing dictatorships and counterrevolutionaries in Central America and the Caribbean.

At the same time, the offensive against workers here intensifies. Klan and Nazi killers are given the green light for more murder and terror.

As Grenadian leader Joseph Kanute Burke said, the enemies of the revolution on that Black Caribbean island represent the same forces behind the Klan murders here.

Solidarity with Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Grenada is more important than ever. The first step is to get out the truth to the widest possible audiences.

## Defend Pvt. Garwood

Private Robert Garwood of the U.S. Marines is currently standing trial at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

Garwood is accused of desertion during the Vietnam War, collaboration with the enemy, assaulting fellow prisoners of war, and trying to convince other GIs to surrender. He has denied all charges.

Garwood is the only Vietnam-era serviceman to stand trial on such charges. If convicted, he could be sentenced to life imprisonment.

What is behind this unusual courtmartial—occurring seven years after the Vietnam War?

The trial, as it has been described in the press, is being used to revise the real story of the Vietnam War, to reverse what so many GIs and millions of other Americans came to learn about the U.S. government and the brutal war it was waging.

Garwood is portrayed as treacherous, treasonous, and cowardly. But the crimes he is charged with—sympathy with the "enemy," opposition to the U.S. military—were "committed" to one degree or another by tens of thousands of GIs who came to hate Washington's war and openly oppose it.

Through the trial the government is also serving notice on today's young soldiers. This is what could happen to them if they question Washington's military policies.

The North Vietnamese are also on trial. Government witnesses have portrayed them as fiendish torturers. Much testimony has centered on their alleged brutal treatment of the U.S. prisoners of war (POWs).

This is reminiscent of POW horror stories fabricated during the war in a futile attempt to turn back antiwar sentiment.

But try as Washington might, these tales could never match the memories thousands of GIs brought home with them—of inhuman torture and mass murder of thousands upon thousands of men, women, and children by the U.S. military.

Washington has still not erased those memories. But it is attempting to in the Garwood trial and through its stepped-up threats to go to war in other countries, particularly in Central America and the Middle East.

Garwood deserves the support of everyone organizing against the U.S. militarization drive. All charges against him should be dropped.

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### Border cop violence

How the U.S. government trains immigration cops to torture and intimidate undocumented workers seeking jobs in this country. Pages 10-11.

## The Militant

Editors: CINDY JAQUITH  
ANDY ROSE  
Business Manager: NANCY ROSENSTOCK  
Editorial Staff: Nan Bailey, Fred Feldman, Suzanne Haig, Osborne Hart, Diane Jacobs, Harry Ring, Vivian Sahrner, Priscilla Schenk, Stu Singer.

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# Black students vow 'no calm' until Klan killers brought to justice

By Johanna Ryan

GREENSBORO, N.C.—More than 2,000 people demonstrated across North Carolina November 20 to protest the acquittal of six Ku Klux Klansmen and Nazis for the murders of five anti-Klan demonstrators here on November 3, 1979.

Seven hundred people assembled at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (A&T) in Greensboro's Black community for a silent prayer march through the downtown area, followed by a rally at Government Plaza.

The march was organized by the A&T Student Government Association, the Greensboro NAACP, and Black church organizations.

Protesters linked arms and marched in rows of five, flanked by a line of A&T student marshals. Their mood of quiet, disciplined determination recalled the traditions of the militant civil rights movement that challenged segregation in Greensboro in the 1960s.

They carried banners that read, "The Wheels of Justice Do Not Turn in Greensboro," "A&T Aggies 'Stepping Out' for Justice," and "We Will Never Go Back."

Many people joined the marchers as they paraded down Market Street, despite the intimidating presence of scores of city police positioned on the rooftops and street corners.

Business paused in downtown Greensboro as workers came from stores and offices to watch the march. Many waved or clapped to show their support.

Dr. George Simkins, president of the local NAACP, opened the rally by denouncing the verdict as part of a government campaign "to turn back the tide of civil rights."

"We are here to put Greensboro and the nation on notice," he declared,

"that we can't let this happen. We intend to hold on to what we have, and fight like hell to keep it!"

The anger of the Black students was forcefully expressed by Aubrey Eaton of the National Organization of Black University and College Students (NOBUCS) and Pamela McCorkle, president of A&T student government.

"Isn't it interesting," said McCorkle, "that the 'responsible' white community has been unable to say anything to us, but 'be calm.' How can Black people be calm when we bear the scars of Birmingham, Selma, Atlanta, Buffalo, Chattanooga, and now Greensboro?"

"I'm here to tell [Greensboro Mayor] Jim Melvin that A&T is *not* calm, and we will not remain calm while injustices like this occur!"

Both students called on civil rights leaders across the country to come to Greensboro and publicly condemn the verdict.

Rev. Leon White of the United Church of Christ's Commission for Racial Justice called for Black people to "rise up" and march on the state capital in Raleigh on January 15, Martin Luther King's birthday. Cheers and applause greeted this proposal.

Meanwhile, 400 Black students from North Carolina Central University marched through downtown Durham chanting, "We want justice . . . we won't take any more."

They were addressed by Georgia State Senator Julian Bond, who called for an immediate investigation by the U.S. Justice Department into federal civil rights violations in the Greensboro trial.

In Chapel Hill, 1,000 students held a "Rally Against Racism" on the predominantly white University of North Carolina campus. University officials described it as the largest student protest there since the Vietnam war.



A&T students lead November 19 protest march in Greensboro against acquittal of Klan-Nazi murderers.

## New York: ex-cop kills three in antigay rampage

NEW YORK—Two nights after Klan and Nazi killers were freed in Greensboro, North Carolina, Ronald Crumpley took a submachine gun, a Browning handgun, an automatic Barretta, and another handgun and drove to an area of gay bars in this city's West Village.

Crumpley is a former cop with the transit system.

He pulled up alongside a group of men in front of a delicatessen and opened fire, hitting three. Next he drove up to two gay bars, pulled out the submachine gun, and cut down several men on the sidewalk. Then he sprayed the windows of the two bars, hitting patrons inside.

Calmly getting back into the car, Crumpley turned up the street and fired again at another group of men, this time missing.

Although the nearest police station is only five blocks away, it took

the cops ten minutes to arrive at the scene. The ambulance didn't arrive for fifteen minutes.

That was too late for three of Crumpley's victims. Two died within hours, and a third the next day.

Crumpley was arrested after a chase across town. According to the *New York Times*, joining the cops in the chase was an unmarked FBI car. There was no explanation of why the FBI was in the area.

The *Daily News* reported that Crumpley told police: "I just don't like faggots. I would've got more but I was mad and my aim was off."

The next night, protests were held in front of the bars where two of Crumpley's victims were slain. One was 700 and a later one, 1,000.

Demonstrators denounced police inaction in previous acts of violence against gays. Some linked the murders to the freeing of the Greensboro racists.

## Lawyers Guild, N.J. NOW protest Greensboro verdict

Many organizations and individuals have voiced protests at the acquittal of Klan-Nazi murderers in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The National Lawyers Guild (NLG) issued a statement deploring the degree to which the Klan and Nazis "are allowed to operate above the law and to engage in violent terrorist attacks. This acquittal condones and encourages the perpetuation of these activities," it said.

"We call upon the Justice Department to conduct a full investigation leading to prosecution of the murderers under the Anti-Ku Klux Klan Act of 1871," the NLG declared. "We call upon the North Carolina authorities to drop all charges pending against the Communist Workers Party demonstrators."

The New Jersey State Board of the National Organization for Women passed a resolution November 22 that "vigorously denounces the Greensboro murders and the travesty of justice which occurred at the recent trial."

It demanded that federal indictments be brought against all those involved in the murders, that the role of government agents in the racist gangs "be fully investigated and brought to light," and that all charges against the anti-Klan demonstrators be dropped.

In Gary, Indiana, a November 21

forum against racist violence was held at Indiana University. Speakers included Marcello Jernigan, educational director of the Gary NAACP; Luci Horton, staff attorney for the city of Gary; George Johnson, Gary Young Democrats; and Malik Miah, Socialist Workers Party.

The meeting sent telegrams protesting racist attacks to Reagan, to North Carolina Governor James Hunt, and to Georgia Governor George Busbee.

In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a meeting to plan protests against the Greensboro verdict was initiated by Bell Allison, Minority Women's Task Force of Milwaukee NOW; Chris Belnavis, president of Milwaukee NAACP; Ernesto Chacon, Latin American Union for Civil Rights; Howard Fuller; John Fischer, Greater Milwaukee Conference on Religious and Urban Affairs; David McDonald, Socialist Workers Party; and others.

An educational and organizing conference on "Government Repression of Human Rights and the Rise of the Klan and Nazis" has been set for December 5-6 in North Carolina.

Initiated by the Communist Workers Party, the conference has drawn endorsement from a number of civil rights figures and groups.

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# ...1500 launch independent Black party

Continued from page 1

dinator, spoke at the opening session of the convention. She articulated other concerns that brought convention participants to Philadelphia when she said:

"We know that our conditions have worsened in the last two decades, regardless of the things that are quoted of how many of us are now in the middle class. . . .

"We know that too many of our Black men are languishing in the jails.

"We know that too many of us sisters are having to go it alone.

"We know that our neighborhoods are deteriorating. Not only the buildings. But the quality of our lives.

"We know that our children are miseducated, undereducated, and suffering from mental and cultural genocide.

"We know that our senior citizens live alone, on pitiful incomes. Scared to open their windows and doors. Scared to walk the streets.

"We know what has happened to us. This is why we have come here this weekend to take care of our business."

## Congress in 1981

The convention called a national congress of the new party for the summer of 1981, and elected two bodies, a national organizing committee and a charter review commission, to prepare and organize the national congress. Women were given equal representation on both elected bodies.

The national organizing committee has set its first meeting date for January 10 in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Delegates also voted to establish four party caucuses. These are the youth, women's, elderly, and labor caucuses.

In addition, chapters were mandated to hold local and state conventions to



Militant/Nan Bailey

Convention coordinator Zoharah Simmons, left, and Rev. Ben Chavis were two of the speakers who addressed delegates.

organize participation in the national congress.

## Party charter

The convention also adopted a charter, outlining the principles and structure of the new party. The preamble of the charter states:

"Our party will not be like the Democratic and Republican parties. . . .

"There are two kinds of mass parties, bourgeois and progressive. The bourgeois party exists to serve a regime that is in power which represents the interests of a minority, but claims a mass constituency, i.e. Republican and Democratic Parties.

"The progressive party exists to serve the interests of the working class



Militant/Chris Davis

and the poor, therefore our party will actively oppose racism, sexism, capitalism and imperialism. . . ."

The charter affirms support for the Black Agenda adopted at the 1972 national Black political convention held in Gary, Indiana. A section of the Agenda that is quoted in the new charter reads:

"The crises we face as Black people are the crises of the entire society. They are the natural end product of a society built on the twin foundations of white racism and white capitalism.

## 'System doesn't work'

"... The American system does not work for the masses of our people, and it cannot be made to work without

radical fundamental change (indeed, this system does not really work in favor of the humanity or anyone in America).

"Both parties have betrayed us whenever their interests conflicted with ours (which has been most of the time). . . ."

The charter outlines the goals of the party:

"As we implement short-range strategies of reform to meet the immediate objectives of relief for the oppressed masses of our people in their lack of access to resources, we will move to reconstruction of society free from the debilitating effects of racism and economic exploitation.

"While our campaign will focus on the whole of our people, it will emphasize the improvement in the condition of the most distressed sector among us—the unemployed and underemployed workers, the poor, the institutionalized, and those without adequate housing or social services. . . ."

## Seek unity

"Finally, in addressing ourselves to issues and problems, we will seek

*Black activists interested in joining the National Black Independent Political Party can contact party organizers at (215) 849-4944 (Philadelphia) for information on party activities in your area.*

operational unity with the broadest base of the Black community, and where mutually advantageous, we will make alliances and coalitions and work in concert with other peoples struggling for similar objectives."

More coverage of the November 21-23 National Black political convention will appear in next week's issue.

# Indianapolis protests murder of Black youth

By Jim White

INDIANAPOLIS—More than 400 people rallied here November 19 at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church as protests continue in the Black community against the murder of fifteen-year-old Michael Smith by police officer Jeffrey Ritorto.

Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), was the featured speaker at the meeting, which was sponsored by the Concerned Ministers, Inc.

Smith, a high school freshman, was shot in the back November 4 by Ritorto, who claimed the youth was a suspect in an armed robbery. Smith was unarmed.

Lowery blamed the nationwide wave of violence against Blacks on a system

that makes Blacks scapegoats for the economic crisis. He noted the recent congressional moves against busing and the intentions of the "worn-out old racist warhorses" in the Senate to make affirmative action unconstitutional.

"If affirmative action is to blame for unemployment," Lowery asked, "why is Black unemployment three times as high as white unemployment?"

"If Blacks are to blame for inflation, why do we make less than 59 percent of the average white income?"

He added that the few who control the big corporations are delighted when poor whites blame Blacks for their problems. "They've got us fighting over paper boats in the bathtub while they sail away in a yacht," he said.

The November 19 rally was the culmination of two weeks of protests initiated by the ministers' group. Prayer vigils were held daily at police headquarters.

On the evening of November 18, the city administration agreed to set up a committee to study the possibility of a civilian review board.

In response, Rev. Melvin Girton announced at the rally that the prayer vigils would be temporarily called off.

Other forms of protest have been taken up, however. A petition calling for legal action against the killer-cop has been widely circulated in the high schools and in the Black community.

More than 2,000 signatures have been gathered, including 1,800 that were collected in a period of an hour

and a half on Saturday, November 22, by 23 petitioners.

The petitioners met on November 23 and formed the Concerned Citizens Coalition Against Police Repression. They set a goal of 10,000 signatures by December 3. On that night a rally will be held to announce that the petitions have been turned in and to help build a march planned for December 6.

The coalition is urging high school students to wear white armbands in Michael Smith's memory until the killer-cop is brought to justice.

Sentiment in the coalition runs toward a community-controlled review board with power to enforce its decisions. The immediate focus is on direct action to bring Ritorto to justice.

# New Orleans Blacks demand cops out of community

By John Linder

NEW ORLEANS—Hoping to cool down mounting anger in the Black community here, Mayor Ernest Morial announced the resignation of Police Superintendent James Parsons at a November 24 news conference.

The resignation came less than two weeks after cops murdered four Black residents in the Algiers section of New Orleans.

On November 11, Raymond Ferdinand was shot and killed by two police as they handcuffed him.

Then, in the early hours of November 13, James Billy, Reginald Miles, and Sherry Singleton were gunned down in their homes. The police claim that Billy and Miles were suspects in the recent killing of a white cop, but they have yet to produce any evidence.

Singleton was shot as she crouched in her bathtub. Neighbors heard her pleading, "Please don't shoot," seconds before cops opened up with shotguns and pistols.

Morial has not uttered one word criticizing the police. He and other Black Democrats have urged calm, restraint, and patience.

Their advice hasn't set well with the Black community. At a November 22 rally and news conference, local Black leaders called for the "complete withdrawal" of the police from Algiers.

Arthur Bush, president of the Concerned Citizens of Algiers, demanded the dismissal of all police officers involved in the murders, public disclosure of all information concerning the murders within forty-eight hours, the firing of Parsons, and a meeting with Morial and the city council.

Bush called on the mayor to "suspend all police activities on this side of the river until this thing is cleared up."

A reporter commented that this would leave people without police protection. To loud applause from the audience, Bush explained, "We fear the police more than any criminal in this town."

Although Parsons is now out of the picture, Black residents interviewed following his resignation thought that nothing had changed. "The guns are still in the same hands," a Black postal worker told this reporter. "The faces change at the top but these crimes go on just the same."

Morial also announced today that he was asking the U.S. Justice Department to move the trial of former Miami cop Charles Veverka, which is scheduled to begin here December 1, to another city.

Veverka's trial in the killing of Black businessman Arthur McDuffie was first moved from Miami to Atlanta due to widespread anger in Miami's Black community. It was then moved to New Orleans after the murders of at least fifteen Black children in Atlanta were exposed.

Now New Orleans has joined the list of cities where racist violence has pushed the Black community to the point where it could explode.

## American Labor Struggles 1877-1934

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## 'Foreign counterintelligence' operation

# FBI admits in court: We still spy on SWP

By Vivian Sahner

Andrew Pulley, the Socialist Workers Party 1980 presidential candidate, asserted November 25 that his party is presently the target of an FBI "foreign counterintelligence" operation in which SWP members are subject to warrantless wire-tapping, burglaries, and electronic surveillance.

His statement was issued after the FBI admitted in court on November 20 that it has continued to maintain active files on the Socialist Workers Party right up to this day, despite previous claims to have halted spying against the party.

This major new disclosure came as the SWP and Young Socialist Alliance prepare to take the government to trial March 16 for its forty-year disruption program against them.

In response to written questions filed by the socialists in their \$40-million lawsuit against government harassment, the FBI conceded that it has a file captioned "IS-SWP (Foreign Influence)" ("IS" stands for "Internal Security"); that it started the file in 1947 and continues it as an active file.

When questioned at the pretrial hearing before Federal Judge Thomas Griesa on November 20, a government attorney confirmed that the file is part of an FBI "Foreign counterintelligence investigation" into the SWP's ties with groups abroad.

### Name check files

Two other types of files the FBI admits to keeping are "name check" files on socialists and others who apply for government jobs, and files the FBI received from other sources, which they claim are used for record-keeping purposes only.

"The U.S. Attorney General's office has claimed for years that it ended its investigation of the SWP and YSA in 1976," said socialist Pulley. "Now we see that the 'new' FBI is the same as the old one. They still spy and they continue to lie to the working people in this country about their activities."

At the hearing the government contended that the foreign influence file violated no laws. "This is a file . . . to compile in a single place information concerning the Fourth International,



Socialist Workers' Andrew Pulley: 'Now we find that the 'new' FBI is the same as the old one, they still spy and lie to the working people in this country about their activities.'

not the SWP," its lawyer said.

Judge Griesa asked the government if this investigation was being carried out by the FBI. The answer was "yes."

Then the judge asked if the investigation was carried out inside the United States. The government again answered yes.

Looking somewhat perplexed, Judge Griesa then commented, "There would be a question in my mind, incidentally, in view of the background of this action, as to whether an FCI [foreign counterintelligence] investigation of the Fourth International carried out in the United States could do anything else but be an investigation of people in the SWP and YSA."

The government asserted that it was different because "the target" was dif-

ferent.

The Fourth International is a world organization of revolutionary socialists from some fifty countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, and North and South America. The SWP is barred by a reactionary federal law, the Voorhis Act, from membership.

Judge Griesa ordered the government to provide him with a description of the FBI's activities since Attorney General Edward Levi instructed the FBI to halt its investigation of the SWP in 1976.

### FBI's cover-up

Former FBI Director Clarence Kelley had been questioned in 1976 about the Attorney General's instructions by Leonard Boudin, a lawyer for the SWP

and YSA. Swearing to tell the whole truth, Kelley repeatedly claimed, "We are not conducting any type of investigation regarding the Socialist Workers Party."

"The FBI is not engaging in any subterfuges in order that we might continue with investigations that have been by the Attorney General's instructions ordered closed," he said.

Two days before that interview Kelley had ordered the FBI field offices to tell their informers to get out of the SWP and YSA. At the bottom of the memo it was noted that Kelley was scheduled to be questioned by the socialists.

When asked about this in the 1976 interview, Kelley told Boudin that any further information gathered by informers on the SWP and YSA would be refused by the FBI. "We are completely out of the area of investigating SWP, which would include the receipt of information about them," he said.

Now they've been caught lying again.

They are refusing the SWP's request to see the foreign influence file "on the grounds of the state secrets privilege."

### International solidarity

"The government is claiming the right to spy on us under the guise of combatting 'foreign influence,'" said Pulley in his statement. "Why? Because we think workers in the United States have a stake in extending solidarity to people's struggles around the world, from Iran to Central America and the Caribbean. Because we oppose the Democrats' and Republicans' attempts to revive the draft, and their drive toward a new war. Because we meet with other socialists from around the world and share ideas with them."

"But our activities are perfectly legal," Pulley added. "It's the government that is breaking the law."

"It's the government that's guilty of 'foreign influence' around the world—from training the shah's torturers to sending advisers to El Salvador."

"The American people have a right to hold political opinions and express them freely. By denying this right to us the government is trampling on the rights of all Americans."

## Border cops to face trial in SWP lawsuit

By Vivian Sahner

At a pretrial hearing on November 13 the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance won a highly significant victory in their lawsuit against government harassment. Federal Judge Thomas Griesa ruled that the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the State Department would be added to the list of government agencies being sued by the socialists.

The SWP and YSA will now be taking on some of the broadest, most reactionary legislation on the books.

INS decisions to welcome or exclude people seeking admission to the United States are directly tied to the government's overall foreign policy. Dictators like the shah of Iran and Nicaragua's Somoza were welcomed with open arms.

Haitians, fleeing from the brutal dictator Duvalier and the poorest economy in the Western Hemisphere, are barred because that country's regime is supported by the U.S.

The State Department has denied visas to socialists, trade union leaders, and others who have tried to come here for conventions and other political gatherings.

Historically and legally, immigration and deportation laws have always been right at the heart of repressive legislation. The Palmer Raids in the

1920s and the McCarthy period witch-hunts were built largely around keeping "foreign influence" out. "Aliens" and "communists" became interchangeable in the history of these reactionary laws.

These laws directly contradict the Bill of Rights, which guarantees people in this country freedom of speech and assembly. They have been instrumental in the government's repression of democratic rights in this country and its attempt to isolate working people here from the revolutionary struggles occurring around the world.

### INS blacklist

The socialists' lawsuit has already revealed that the INS maintains a blacklist of hundreds of organizations whose members are targets for deportation. INS files turned over prove that the government continues to use the Attorney General's list of "subversive" organizations, an illegal list that they claimed to have abolished in 1974.

The court decision allows the SWP and YSA to request INS files, take depositions from immigration officials, and expose more of the truth about the operations of *la migra*.

That's the reason why the government fought so hard to keep the INS out of the SWP and YSA lawsuit.

The government had petitioned Judge Griesa to bar any further INS

discovery in October after lawyers for the socialists interviewed INS investigator Godfrey England.

In 1979 England had questioned Marian Bustin, who was born in Scotland, and told her that her permanent residence status in the U.S. was in jeopardy because of her membership in the SWP.

Through their interview with England, the SWP and YSA uncovered a six-year behind-the-scenes campaign to deport Bustin.

Lawyers for the socialists countered the government's petition with a court motion explaining why investigation of the INS was crucial for their suit.

*Continued on next page*

## United States drops plans for Puerto Rican detention camp

The U.S. government has dropped its plans to establish a detention camp in Puerto Rico for Haitian refugees and Cuban immigrants.

A November 17 statement by the State Department asserted that a decreasing flow of refugees to this country made the camp unnecessary at this time.

The plan had provoked massive opposition in Puerto Rico. Rev. Gerard Jean-Juste, principal spokesperson for Miami's Haitian community, had branded the move 'unadulterated racism.'

Protests increased after initial an-

nouncements that the camp would be merely a relocation center were exposed as lies. A September 25 'Miami Herald' editorial explained that those being sent to Puerto Rico would not join the island's population, but would be held 'in a self-contained . . . enclave.'

After spending \$10 million on this project, and combatting a Puerto Rican suit against the camp, the government was forced to back down. The decision represents a resounding victory for the Haitian community and the democratic rights of all working people in this country.



# INS

Continued from preceding page

The government shot back with its own motion and the SWP and YSA answered in a second motion of their own.

Judge Griesa's ruling on November 13 represents a hard-won victory for the SWP and YSA.

The arguments the government used to justify suppression of information on the INS go a long way in explaining why it is so important to uncover.

## Marroquin defense

Take the government's explanation of the INS attacks on Héctor Marroquin, a member of the SWP and YSA who was ordered deported in 1979. His case is currently before the INS Board of Immigration Appeals.

The essence of his case—the fight to prevent the government from deporting him—has always been, can the government and the INS use political criteria for keeping someone out of the country? This question now becomes one of the central focuses of the socialists' lawsuit.

Marroquin fled to the U.S. in 1974 after the Mexican government attempted to frame him on false charges of terrorism.

During his deportation hearing, the INS made it clear that Marroquin's socialist views were on trial. "The U.S. doesn't grant asylum to those kinds of people," INS prosecutor Daniel Kahn boasted.

In his ruling, immigration Judge James Smith disparaged Marroquin's membership in the SWP and implied that Marroquin should seek asylum in "Castro's Cuba" rather than in the United States.

In a legal brief to the appeals board, INS lawyers claimed the right to exclude someone who is "an avowed Marxist" under immigration laws.

Public outrage over this statement forced the government to back down on February 25, 1980.

"The government concedes that its trial attorney was incorrect when he stated that Marxists can't get political asylum," government lawyer Jerry Hurwitz told a three-judge panel of the Board of Immigration Appeals.

## SWP at core of inquiry

Now they've switched back. In the government's brief to Judge Griesa they state the following: "The one question INS investigator England asked . . . Bustin concerned her SWP membership. Similarly, . . . Héctor Marroquin was repeatedly questioned in his hearing about his political affiliations. There was no secret about the INS's focus on these persons' political affiliations . . . those affiliations were obviously at the core of the inquiry."

They continued, "In view of the language of various sections of the Immigration and Nationality Act . . . there is nothing improper about such inquiries."

This assertion by the government ups the ante in the socialists' lawsuit tremendously and poses the question for millions of immigrants and noncitizens: Can the Immigration and Naturalization Service throw people out of the country because they don't agree with their political views?

This is a big question for the Haitians, the Salvadorans, and for millions of Latino residents in this country.

As more revolutions occur in the Caribbean, Latin America, and around the world, and the government continues its attacks on the living standards in this country, it will attempt to use the INS, FBI, and other government agencies to keep in check any revolt by the working people here.

President-elect Ronald Reagan has already told the press that he intends to beef-up the FBI.

The Reagan program is a challenge to the life-and-death interests of American working people. But like their desire to drive back the workers and farmers of the rest of the world, it is easier said than done.

# St. Louis conference: solidarity with El Salvador, Nicaragua, Grenada

By Joan Levitt and Jim Garrison

ST. LOUIS—"We ask today that everyone continue with the spirit of solidarity with Nicaragua. At the same time we stand in solidarity, in the spirit of Sandino, with the struggles throughout the world for a new society." This is what Sylvia Reyes of the Association of Nicaraguan Women told a conference on Latin America and the Caribbean here November 15.

Reyes described the revolutionary process in her country, focusing on a major campaign to improve health care in which her organization will play a key role.

The all-day conference, sponsored by the Greater St. Louis Latin America Solidarity Committee, was attended by 270 registered participants. In addition to Reyes, the conference heard presentations from Joseph Burke, consul-general to North America from Grenada; Aweilda Colon, of the Caribbean Project for Justice and Peace; and Robert Armstrong of the North American Congress on Latin America.

Burke provided the conference with the background of Grenada's exploitation at the hands of foreign powers. He went on to describe the new government's achievements and goals in developing industry and charting a new foreign policy.

Burke responded to U.S. government criticism of Grenada's friendly relations with Cuba. "We make no apologies . . . we are small but we are



Militant/Della Rossa

Grenada's Consul General Burke

sovereign," Burke said.

"In Grenada we had a system where babies had to be delivered on hospital floors. We had a system where aspirin was a luxury. Cuba responded to our call for aid by sending twelve doctors."

A particular target for criticism from the U.S. State Department has been Cuba's aid in the construction of an international airport in Grenada. Burke noted that since 1944 there had been eight feasibility studies for such an airport.

"Every few years a team would come to our island to carry out a 'feasibility study.' They stayed for a few months in the sun and left," Burke said.

"After our revolution we approached Canada to help build an airport. They recommended another feasibility study. When we approached the Cubans they said they would have a runway laid in six months."

The audience gave a standing ovation to Burke's call for support for the Grenadian revolution.

Aweilda Colon discussed the importance of Puerto Rico to Washington's military strategy in the region, including the use of Puerto Rican bases in staging the 1965 invasion of the Dominican Republic. She urged support for the movement to end U.S. military presence in her country.

A central feature of the solidarity conference was support for the revolutionary struggle in El Salvador. Conference participants were deeply moved by the presentation of the documentary "El Salvador: Revolution or Death."

Robert Armstrong, who has reported extensively on the struggle in El Salvador, pointed to the critical need to build U.S. solidarity for the freedom fighters there.

Among the most popular workshops was a panel discussion on the status of the women's movement in the Americas. Panelists included Reyes, and local leaders of the Coalition of Labor Union Women and the National Organization for Women.

# New facts on Grenada killings

A report from the Grenada Government Information Service, received after the *Militant* went to press last week, contains updated information on the five people murdered in Grenada November 17.

Four of the victims were shot in a car. They were: Donald Stanislaus, twenty-nine, an immigration officer attached to Pearls Airport; his brother Dennis, thirty-two, who was visiting his family from Britain, Stephen Lalsee, twenty, a student at the Institute for Further Education; and Andy Courtney, eighteen, who attended McDonald College.

The fifth death was incorrectly reported in our last issue. In a second incident about two miles away in Mount Rose, St. Patrick's, eighteen-year-old Evan Charles was shot dead and Roy Salim, also eighteen, was shot and has since been hospitalized.

The police have so far arrested four persons in connection with the incidents.

Members of the People's Revolutionary Government, led by Communications and Works Minister Selwyn Stra-

chan, visited the families of the victims within hours of the incidents and expressed sympathy.



Militant/Jerry Hunnicutt

Grenadians mobilize for first anniversary of revolution. They will not be intimidated by counterrevolutionary attacks.

# Black students in Los Angeles join Grenada Friendship Society

LOS ANGELES—Joseph Kanute Burke, Grenada's consul-general to North America, had a very successful tour of the Los Angeles area in mid-November. He spoke at five colleges, one high school, and a large meeting in the Black community.

Information about Grenada got out to a larger audience here than ever before. Hundreds of people signed to be on the mailing list for the U.S.-Grenada Friendship Society.

Probably the most inspiring meeting was at Crenshaw High School. There Burke spoke to about 400 Black stu-

dents in three different sessions. Many of the students had never heard of Grenada before. But two hundred signed up to work in the friendship society.

The community meeting was held at the First A.M.E. Church. About 150 people attended. In addition to Burke, the speakers included: Los Angeles City Councilman Robert Farrell; A.M.E. Bishop H.H. Brookins; International Association of Machinists representative John Cummings; United Auto Workers Local 216 president Al Belmontez; United Electrical Workers International representative Humberto

Carcho; Casa Nicaragua Central Committee member Arturo Sanchez; Mauricio Alarcón of the U.S. Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador; Dorothy Healey of the New American Movement; and Jim Little of the Socialist Workers Party.

Burke's tour here gave a tremendous boost to solidarity work with Grenada. Many people said they plan to visit Grenada. Others offered to volunteer their services for projects there. At the University of California at Riverside, the Black Student Union decided to begin collecting books to help in the Grenada literacy drive.



## Nicaragua: capitalist provocations

# Sandinistas uncover right-wing plots

By Lars Palmgren

MANAGUA—Tension between capitalist forces in Nicaragua and the Sandinista government here has reached a new pitch after the uncovering of a counterrevolutionary plot involving top business leaders, the death of one of the figures in the plot in a gunfight with government security forces, and a massive rally November 19 that was called by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) to answer the rightist threat.

Jorge Salazar, the owner of a big coffee plantation near Matagalpa and the vice-president of the Superior Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP), was shot and killed at a gasoline station in El Crucero November 17 as he was about to be arrested by members of State Security. Salazar was suspected of involvement in counterrevolutionary plots with members of Somoza's National Guard, with the aim of overthrowing the FSLN-led Government of National Reconstruction.

The shooting at El Crucero broke out because Nestor Moncada Lau, who was accompanying Salazar, opened fire on the security agents. Six M-16 rifles were later found in Salazar's car, along with two magazines for each rifle. The next day Interior Minister Tomás Borge explained that it had been known that Salazar had invested some \$50,000 in counterrevolutionary activity.

At the same time Borge said that four persons with close ties to the private sector had been arrested as Salazar's co-conspirators.

### Coordinated conspiracy

In his speech at the November 19 rally, Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock explained that the conspiracy involved the coordination of armed attacks from Honduras (and eventually from Costa Rica as well) with similar activities inside the country. Plans for fomenting divisions inside the Sandinista People's Army had also been made.

Wheelock also stated that an unidentified member of a Latin American government was involved in the plot. This person had promised to send between 500 and 1,000 FAL rifles to Nicaragua for use by the counterrevolution.

According to maps found in Salazar's



Perspectiva Mundial/Alan Martin

Demonstration in Managua last May: 'We have been provoked and it is our duty to defend ourselves.'

ar's car, the weapons were to have been brought in by sea to a small port called Jiquilillo.

By November 20, all this information was public knowledge. Nevertheless, the front page of the bourgeois daily *La Prensa* was devoted to the funeral of Jorge Salazar—"The Burial of a Hero." COSEP declared in a communiqué that the death of its leader had been a "political crime."

In contrast to the FSLN daily *Barricada*, which carried enormous photos of the November 19 demonstration and the single banner headline: "The Future Belongs to the People," *La Prensa* made no mention of the rally that had filled the center of Managua.

### Details of plot

Two days later, on November 22, State Security chief Lenín Cerna held a news conference to offer full details of the plot involving Salazar. Three of those arrested were presented to reporters: Dora María Lau de Lacayo, her husband Gabriel Lacayo, and Leonardo Somarriba, vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce.

During the news conference it was made clear that Salazar had been at the center of plans to mount a coup against the Government of National Reconstruction. During trips to Honduras and Costa Rica he had been in contact with several well-known officers of the Somozaist National Guard.

The conspirators had organized themselves into an "External Front"

and an "Internal Front." The "External Front" mainly involved former soldiers and officers of the National Guard. Those arrested claimed to know few details of this, and said that Salazar's contacts with the Somozaists were aimed at learning what they were planning so he could coordinate his actions with theirs.

The exact structure of the "Internal Front" was also unclear. Those arrested acknowledged that their plans had no real social base inside the country, but they said that certain sectors sympathized with the intentions.

Special military responsibilities had been assigned to Nestor Moncada Lau, a relative of Dora María Lau de Lacayo, who had started the shoot-out in which Salazar was killed. He had been assigned to gain support for the conspiracy within the Sandinista People's Army, of which he was an employee.

### Salvador connection

Salazar had also been in contact with members of the Salvadoran and Honduran governments, including Col. Abdul Gutiérrez of the Salvadoran junta.

According to the information presented at the news conference, it appears that the conspiracy was still in its early stages when it was discovered and broken up. But the large sums of money involved—besides the \$50,000 provided by Salazar, Dora María Lau

de Lacayo admitted donating \$15,000—and the contacts with the Somozaists were clear signs that the plot was in earnest.

This conspiracy had clear links with two earlier plots broken up by State Security. Each of these had involved the creation of the so-called "Democratic Armed Forces" (FAD). One of the plots was led by the Somozaist president of the Nicaragua Amateur Baseball Association, Carlos García. It also involved cattle farmers from the central Nicaraguan province of Boaco.

The other was led by Col. Bernardino Larios, the ex-National Guard officer who tried to mount a coup against Somoza in 1978, and who later served as the first defense minister in the revolutionary government. Information revealed by Larios after his arrest had led State Security to begin its investigation of Jorge Salazar's activities.

When one looks at the way *La Prensa* and the COSEP have acted in this entire affair, *Barricada* said in a November 23 editorial, "the only thing that remains for *La Prensa* is to say openly and with all honesty that it is at the service of Somozaism and reaction." And it seems that the same goes for the leaders of COSEP, some of whom even appear to be linked to the 'new' government that the gang headed by Salazar and his Somozaist partners were planning to install."

From Intercontinental Press

# Workers & peasants rally to defend revolution

By Lars Palmgren

MANAGUA—The day began here like any other. But at around 4 o'clock in the afternoon of November 19 the streets filled with people. Column after column organized on the basis of workplace, neighborhood, or mass organization marched in from all parts of the city toward the Plaza of the Revolution.

By twilight nearly 100,000 persons had filed into the plaza, filling it to overflowing. Among the black and red banners of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and the blue and white flags of Nicaragua, red flags borne by the Nicaraguan Communist Party and the Workers Front (FO) were also visible.

This was the first mass rally held in Managua since August 23, when tens of thousands of young volunteers from the literacy campaign were welcomed back to the capital. On the surface the two meetings were similar—the same songs and slogans, the same enthusiasm. But this rally was not organized to celebrate a victory or commemorate a hero.

Instead the November 19 rally was a response to a series of political provocations

mounted by the bourgeoisie against the revolution and to the mounting counterrevolutionary attacks and armed conspiracies that threaten Nicaragua's tranquility. The workers and their allies were demonstrating their readiness to defend the revolution both politically and militarily.

The rally marked the culmination of a series of meetings, demonstrations and mobilizations organized in preceding days around the country. Similar rallies took place in other cities at the same time.

Three developments led up to these mass mobilizations. The prohibition by the Revolutionary Government of a rally scheduled by the main bourgeois party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN), which was to have taken place in Nandaime on November 9; the sacking of the MDN's Managua headquarters by an angry crowd of supporters of the revolution on the same day; and the walking out of the Council of State by all the representatives of the bourgeoisie on November 12.

One more event also contributed to the tense atmosphere—the death of the

vice-president of the Superior Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP), Jorge Salazar, in a confrontation with security forces two days before the big Managua rally. Salazar was to have been arrested on suspicion of counterrevolutionary activity.

### Bourgeois offensive

The events of early November were part of a long prepared offensive by the bourgeoisie, an offensive that has now collapsed in failure. The way for this offensive had been prepared by the reactionary bourgeois daily *La Prensa*. The MDN rally in Nandaime was to have issued a virtual declaration of war against the FSLN and the revolution by the bourgeois political parties and organizations.

The other parts of the bourgeoisie's offensive were carried out, however. On November 10, the day after the banned MDN rally, the COSEP published a document that was to have been a follow-up to the planned speech in Nandaime of MDN leader Alfonso Robelo.

The forces opposed to the revolution intended to put together a coherent political alternative to the Sandinistas

for the first time since the victory over Somoza.

This would have been important not so much for gaining popular support in Nicaragua, but for appealing to Washington and to bourgeois governments in Latin America. But the plan collapsed.

### Majority backs FSLN

Instead, the streets and plazas of Nicaragua began to fill not with partisans of the MDN and the COSEP, but rather with ardent defenders of the Sandinista revolution. This showed one more time for all to see that it is the FSLN and the Government of National Reconstruction that have the support of the overwhelming majority of the Nicaraguan people.

In his main address to the November 19 rally, Commander Jaime Wheelock, a member of the FSLN's national directorate, took up some of the main points in the COSEP document.

The central charge made by the capitalists is that the FSLN and the Junta of National Reconstruction have failed to live up to the program of government published in June 1979

Continued on page 15



# SWP supporters push election fund over top

By L. Paltrineri

Thanks to all of the supporters of the 1980 Socialist Workers Party election campaign, we have gone over the top of our \$75,000 fund drive goal this fall.

As of this issue of the *Militant*, \$80,579 has been sent in to the SWP election campaign office in New York.

These contributions, in large and small amounts, are especially significant given the inflationary squeeze on wages and savings. Hundreds of supporters of the SWP campaign dug deep into their pockets to provide an alternative to the pro-war, anti-working class campaigns of Reagan, Carter and Anderson.

Nearly \$30,000 was sent in from rallies held in some forty cities this fall for SWP presidential candidate Andrew Pulley and vice-presidential candidate Matilde Zimmermann. In addition, \$5,764 was sent in from readers of the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*, and other supporters who responded to our appeal for funds this fall. And more than \$42,000 was sent in from pledges made at the national campaign rally in August where the \$75,000 fund was launched.

The funds raised this fall were part of almost \$300,000 that has been sent in to the national campaign office during the 1979-1980 election period.

The contributions and the energy of our supporters made possible a socialist election campaign with an impact far beyond the size of the SWP and YSA.

Socialist campaigners distributed almost a million and a half pieces of campaign literature presenting the socialist proposals on the draft, nuclear power, the Equal Rights Amendment, jobs, Black rights, and the labor party.

One of the most popular pieces was a pamphlet by Andrew Pulley, entitled *How I Became A Socialist*. Some 20,000 of these were distributed. This pamphlet, along with the general election program of the SWP, was also printed in Spanish.

One of the major projects carried out by campaign supporters was getting

the SWP presidential ticket and many SWP candidates for Congress and Senate on the ballot in twenty-eight states and the District of Columbia. These massive petitioning campaigns were also huge socialist propaganda drives, enabling petitioners to introduce our ideas to hundreds of thousands of people.

At the heart of the SWP campaign was the idea that working people need a labor party in the United States. Pulley and Zimmermann and other SWP candidates were able to use the public platform provided by the elections to break into the media with this important idea and the discussion around it in the labor movement this year.

They explained how a labor party would fight for jobs and against the draft. They pointed to the power a labor party would bring to the fight against cop and Klan terror; how it would campaign in defense of busing and affirmative action.

SWP candidates spoke to hundreds of workers at plant gates and union meetings, to students on campus, and on radio and TV. They spent hours in televised debates with their Democratic and Republican opponents. In Colorado, for example, SWP candidates Silvia Zapata and Harold Sude-meyer received seven hours of radio and television time this fall.

Defense of the Iranian revolution was a big part of the SWP election campaign. And the candidates traveled to Cuba, Grenada, and Nicaragua to witness firsthand the gains made by the revolutionary workers and peasants in these countries. They returned, criss-crossing the country, and explained why it is in the interests of American workers and youth to oppose Carter's draft registration and instead defend these revolutions from U.S. imperialism's militarization drive.

Pulley and Zimmermann made Washington, D.C. a frequent stop on their fifteen-month nationwide tours. They attended antidraft and antinuclear power demonstrations, as well as marches for jobs, for the U.S. military



SWP candidates Matilde Zimmermann, center, and Andrew Pulley at Equal Rights Amendment march in Richmond, Virginia, last January.

to get out of Vieques, and to save Black colleges.

They also marched with ERA supporters in Richmond, Virginia, and Chicago. And they joined with antiracist fighters in Greensboro, Miami, Boston, and Buffalo.

The election campaign attracted many activists. One hundred fifty of them joined the SWP and YSA. New YSA chapters were established in Cedar Falls, Iowa, and Gainesville, Florida. In addition, there are now new members in Seaside, California; Providence, Rhode Island; Berea, Kentucky; Amherst, Massachusetts, and scores of other cities.

The socialist activists of the YSA will gather in Indianapolis December 27-30 for the twentieth national convention of the YSA. They will be talking about how to fight racist attacks and right-wing terror; how to continue the fight for jobs and the ERA; and how to help build the antidraft and antinuclear power movements.

They will be discussing how to win

support for the SWP suit against the government. This case, scheduled to come to trial March 16, is challenging forty years of government spying and harassment of the socialists.

With the elections over, supporters are still writing to us. They too are thinking about what to do next. The following letter, written the day after the elections, came from a supporter in Asheville, North Carolina:

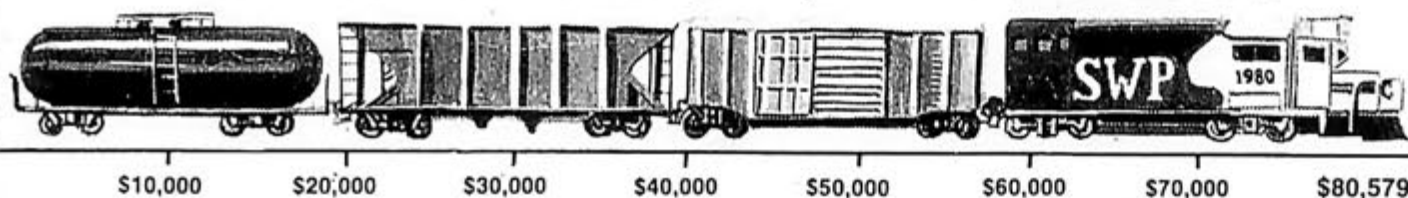
"Thank you for the huge box of campaign literature. I managed to distribute it all. Until last evening I still had faith in the American two-party system. The literature of yours that I distributed was done in protest to the dismal choice of candidates. Now I am convinced that the people and their votes can be manipulated by the corporate interests.

"I am seeking alternatives. Please send me literature and information you may have on your party, its post-election activities and future goals."

Another letter came from a new supporter in Moscow, Idaho. "As usual, the SWP ticket was the only campaign to consistently tell the truth and talk about the real issues facing the U.S. and the world. Regardless of the vote totals, Andrew Pulley and Matilde Zimmermann and those fortunate enough to hear their message were the real winners in this election. Continued success in your political efforts that do not stop on election day."

If you haven't yet done so, we hope that you will join the SWP or YSA soon. Attend the upcoming convention of the YSA, and keep working for the socialist alternative.

## Socialist Workers \$75,000 Fund Drive



## 'Young Socialist' sales boost Dec. YSA convention

By Rick Reaves

With just a few weeks to go before their Twentieth National Convention, Young Socialist Alliance chapters across the country, aided by Socialist Workers branches, are on a last big push to build maximum attendance.

YSA members and friends from more than fifty cities will be attending the convention, to be held December 27-30 in Indianapolis.

The November/December issue of the *Young Socialist* is the single best tool for building the convention. The issue features a centerfold article about the SWP and YSA's \$40 million suit against the FBI and describes the threatened deportation of YSA member Marian Bustin.

Bustin, a coal miner from Morgantown, West Virginia, is being harassed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service for her political beliefs. Getting out the facts about her case and its importance for all working people through the pages of the *Young Socialist* is just one aspect of the campaign by the YSA and SWP to put the FBI on trial for its harassment and dirty tricks. The socialist suit against

the FBI will be coming to trial next March.

In order to reach as many people as possible about the convention, the Milwaukee YSA chapter decided to increase its sales goal for the November/December issue from 125 copies to 300. The chapter plans to sell at least 100 at the Milwaukee Area Technical College and fifty at Milwaukee high schools. Young Socialist workers will be selling the YS to their co-workers at auto and other industrial plants in the Milwaukee area. They plan to sell seventy-five at regional campuses.

So far the campaign is a big success. YSA organizer Theresa Delgadillo reports that in the first week more than fifty YS's were sold. Ten copies were sold at North Division High School and at Milwaukee Area Technical College ten were sold in twenty minutes.

At a recent meeting in Pittsburgh, socialist coal miners discussed how they can circulate the YS in the coal mines in the next few weeks.

They plan to build support for the case of Marian Bustin and at the same time build the YSA convention in the coalfields.

## Come to Indianapolis 20th National YSA Convention

December 27-30

### We Will Discuss:

- No Registration! No Draft!
- Solidarity with Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada!
- Money for Jobs—Not War!
- Stop FBI and CIA Spying!

## Join the Young Socialist Alliance

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ I want to join the YSA.  
☐ Send me more information on the YSA convention.  
☐ Enclosed is \$2.00 for one year of the *Young Socialist*.

Clip and mail to: YSA National Office, P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station, New York, N.Y. 10003.



# Turkish generals crack down & profit

By Suzanne Haig

The military dictatorship that came to power in Turkey through a coup September 12 is instituting a murderous crack-down on the workers and peasants.

On November 18, an Ankara military prosecutor demanded death sentences for thirty members of Dev Yol, or Revolutionary Way, a major leftist organization outlawed in Turkey. Seventy-four of its members are currently on trial.

Arrest warrants have been issued for sixty-four members of the Turkish teachers organization, Tob Der.

Nine leaders of the Maoist Turkish Workers and Peasants Party surrendered to authorities after warrants were issued for the arrest of forty-two members.

The military junta has aimed its dragnet against the Kurdish people as well, who make up

approximately 8 million of Turkey's population of 45 million.

A military court accused 200 people on November 19 of belonging to the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party and engaging in secessionist activities and murder.

Abdullah Büyük, the imam of the largest mosque in the city of Konya, has been ordered to appear before a military tribunal and answer charges of working for the formation of an Islamic state. In addition, forty-five Islamic militants have been arrested.

The Turkish government's repressive actions clearly have the blessing of Wall Street.

That Washington and the other imperialist powers think the Turkish generals are doing a good job was indicated November 21, just days after the arrests. The World Bank authorized two loans—totaling \$87 million—to Turkey to expand oil production.

# Polish workers hit privileges: 'turn villas into kindergartens'

Rail workers in Poland staged a two-hour strike November 24 in Warsaw and Gdansk. They said they would walk out for four hours the next day if the government did not meet with them.

The workers donned arm-bands, decked the train stations with red-and-white flags, and broadcast their demands over the public address system, according to the November 25 *New York Times*.

They were demanding that lower-paid workers get a larger raise in upcoming pay increases.

On November 17 workers led by Solidarity, the independent union, forced the resignation of Miroslaw Wierzbicki, governor of the southern Poland region of Czeszochowa.

Wierzbicki had tried earlier to crush the local union during the national confrontation with the courts over Solidarity's statutes.

He declared a state of emergency, authorized factory managers to take away Solidarity's means of communication, threatened force against strikers, and even said he would

personally evict the union from its offices.

The plan backfired. Angry workers went on a war footing, issuing strike alerts in 200 factories.

Workers at a linenware factory, which employs mainly women, carted their director off the premises in a wheelbarrow, according to the November 14 *Newark Star Ledger*.

On November 19 the government announced the resignations of Wierzbicki and other local officials.

Besides demanding the removal of hated officials, the workers called for turning government-owned and private villas, including Wierzbicki's, into nurseries and preschools.

Around the same time as the Czeszochowa battle, striking health workers, teachers, and students forced the government to increase education expenditures from 3 to 6 percent and to allot 5 percent of the budget to health care.

These struggles show how the fight for union rights and better working conditions in Poland is intertwined with the fight against bureaucratic privileges and the far-reaching

issue of who decides social priorities.

The advancing workers movement is pummeling the Stalinist Communist Party, which stands as an obstacle to achieving socialism and real workers' democracy. This has intensified debate within the party.

In the November 14 issue of *Zycie Warszawy*, Poland's major daily, an article by Wojciech Lamentowicz appeared under the headline "A Discussion Article for the Ninth Party Congress."

Lamentowicz wrote that the crisis of the government "was caused by the crisis of internal democracy within the party." He argued that "the party must not take sides against the workers in a conflict."

On November 22 eighteen first secretaries of the party in major cities were dismissed. But this has not curbed the rising militancy of the workers.

The Gdynia local of Solidarity has protested the selection of Stanislaw Kociolek as new first secretary in Warsaw because of his responsibility for the shooting of workers in the Gdynia shipyards during the 1970 strike wave.

# Iraqis question war as death toll mounts

By Suzanne Haig

Achmat Hassan is dead. He is one of Iraq's casualties in that country's war against Iran.

How his family reacted to his death, and the growing Iraqi dissatisfaction with the war, was the subject of an article by Pranay Gupte in the *New York Times* November 17.

"We are told he died a martyr," said Mr. Hassan's teenage sister, Nouaal.

"Martyr for what? How many more martyrs before we can have peace again?"

"There is no official count in this country of how many Iraqis have been killed in the war against Iran," Gupte writes. "The daily war communiqués issued by the general command of the Iraqi armed forces speak of dozens of 'Persian aggressors' killed, but the figure for Iraqi dead is always, as is to be expected, smaller."

"The Government of President Saddam Hussein daily proclaims new victories on the battlefield," writes Gupte.

"In Achmat Hassan's household, no one believes these claims. No one, of course, op-

only speaks out against the President, for family members are well aware of the extreme penalties for such talk in this rigidly run police state. . . .

"Has Iraq lost a thousand soldiers? Two thousand? The family of Mr. Hassan believes that the figure may well be considerably more. In this neighborhood alone . . . four families have been bereaved in recent weeks."

" . . . conversations at random with Iraqi families turn up puzzlement about why the war is being fought. The Hassan family belongs to the Shiite Moslem sect; President Hussein is a Sunni Moslem and the Iranians are largely Shiites, yet few people see the war in religious terms. . . .

"There have been no mass meetings or popular demonstrations in support of this war" in Iraq, Gupte notes. This is in contrast to the millions who have mobilized in Iran since the war began.

The reason is clear: the Iranian people know they are defending the gains of their revolution in this war. The Iraqi masses have gained nothing—but death and further misery.

# West Bank Arab students answer Israeli terror



Israeli Prime Minister Begin held on by hairsbreadth in latest no-confidence vote.

By David Frankel

Acting in accord with government policy, Israeli troops repeatedly opened fire on unarmed Palestinian demonstrators November 17 and 18.

Eleven teen-agers were wounded in four separate incidents in the West Bank towns of Ramallah, Al Bira, and Bethlehem.

Although Israeli officials claimed that troops had fired at protesters only after warning shots had been ignored, televised accounts showed soldiers on rooftops, well out of range of stones thrown by the students, firing at the youths below.

At a defiant news conference in Jerusalem November 19, students and faculty representatives from Bir Zeit University discussed the closing of

their school and the military government's ban on a Palestine Week festival, which was what sparked the protests.

Sari Nusseibeh, the head of the faculty association at Bir Zeit, told reporters: "It seems to me that the Israeli government, especially the military government on the West Bank, is engaged in a slow attempt at the murder of Palestinian national consciousness."

Meanwhile, a joint conference representing both houses of the U.S. Congress met November 20 and added \$400 million to the \$1 billion in military credits already earmarked for the Israeli regime for the 1981 fiscal year. It also gave the Zionist regime \$785 million in economic aid.

All the economic aid and the

additional \$400 million in military aid were outright grants, rather than loans.

As Palestinian protests continued, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin was also being challenged on another front. Begin's government barely scraped by November 19 with a 57 to 54 vote on a motion of no-confidence in the Israeli Knesset (parliament).

The no-confidence vote came three days after a demonstration by 10,000 union members protesting the government's economic policies. Inflation in Israel was 138.4 percent from October 1979 to October 1980.

Real wages during the first six months of 1980 fell by 14 percent. And unemployment rose to 5 percent by the third quarter of the year.

From Intercontinental Press

# Free Nemat Jazayeri!

Nemat Jazayeri, a leader of the Iranian Revolutionary Workers Party (HKE), remains in Tehran's Evin Prison. He was arrested September 8.

Jazayeri was a lathe operator before his arrest. His co-workers and other supporters urge the following telegram asking for his release be sent to Iranian Prosecutor Ali Ghodosi, Office of the Revolutionary Courts, Tehran, Iran:

I am a supporter of the Iranian revolution and an opponent of the U.S. government's threats and the Iraqi regime's criminal mil-

itary aggression aimed against your revolution.

I am deeply concerned about the arrest of Ray-O-Vac worker Nemat Jazayeri, a staunch anti-imperialist fighter who is being detained without any charges.

I call on you to secure his immediate release.

Copies of the telegram should also be sent to President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, Tehran, Iran; Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti, Tehran, Iran; *Enqelabe Eslami*, Tehran, Iran; and *Kargar*, Box #43/174, Post Area 14, Tehran, Iran.



By Raúl Gonzalez

Beatings, torture, rape, and murder. Border Patrol agents of the Immigration and Naturalization Service have been committing these crimes for many years. But according to news accounts—and the INS itself—this violence has escalated over the past several years.

There has been little in the way of action from the Justice Department to put an end to the violence.

What is reported here is only a sampling of the cases documented over the past year.

The INS, a division of the Justice Department, includes Immigration Inspection officials and the Border Patrol. To Spanish-speaking people, they are *la migra*, a deeply hated gang of cops.

Most *migra* agents get their initial training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center at Glynco, Georgia. The training includes unabashed racist indoctrination.

Agents are encouraged to use such derogatory terms as "wets," short for "wetbacks," the epithet used for those who swam the Rio Grande to get here.

According to the January 13 *San Diego Union*, at least one instructor told trainees that the most important Spanish word they needed to know was "*cabron*," or bastard. All Mexicans, or anyone who even looks like a Mexican is a *cabron*, he said.

### On war footing

After training, Border Patrol agents are assigned to various points of entry and patrol areas. They go to their assignments equipped as for war. Their work tools include such Vietnam War surplus as infrared night scopes and body heat and motion sensors implanted along various parts of the border.

They patrol in helicopters or Dodge off-road vehicles similar to jeeps. They are armored with heavy wire mesh in place of windshields and side windows. Agents refer to them as their "war wagons."

The immigration, or *migra*, agents are heavily armed. In addition to the required handguns, they often carry other weapons.

The arsenal can be grim. In addition to "throwaway" guns (to drop alongside the body of a victim to establish "self-defense"), they will carry blackjacks, garrotes (thin, specially knotted cords for strangling), lead-lined gloves, and more.

In most U.S. cities possession of such weapons is illegal. But from the

# INS cops brutalize Me

## Crime and viol



Racist INS Border Patrol agents have bitter hostility to Mexican undocumented immigrants suffer terrible brutality at hands of both sides of border.

Glynco training center on, according to the January 14 *New York Times* and the January 13 *San Diego Union*, agents are encouraged by their superiors to carry and use them.

### Trigger-happy

It is not uncommon for Border Patrol cops to simply start firing when they spot suspected undocumented immigrants along the border.

One such incident occurred this past March in the south-Texas town of Hebbronville. Two border agents and two local cops opened fire with shotguns on a truck carrying fourteen *mexicanos*.

The truck crashed, killing three of the passengers, including six-year-old Estella Salazar de la Cruz.

A five-year-old child was pinned under the truck and lost both legs.

As yet, no charges have been filed against the cops.

Individuals arrested by *migra* agents are taken to one of a number of detention centers along the border.

There they have the choice of "confessing" to being here without papers and being put across the border at once, or demanding a hearing before an INS hearing board. That can mean detention for months until the hearing.

In many cases, people are encouraged to "confess." Interrogations are often accompanied by beatings and more.

The *New York Times* reported last January 14 that at the detention center at San Ysidro, California, it is common for groups of detainees to be crammed into cells, standing shoulder-to-shoulder.

The air-conditioning in the cells is ten to fifteen degrees colder than the rest of the building. Detainees are sometimes kept there, without food, for several days.

In McAllen, Texas, a somewhat similar process is used to extract confessions. Detainees are taken fresh from the shower, or wearing only light clothing, and placed in cars with the air-conditioning turned on full blast. *Migra* agents call this process "freezing them."

Edward Begley, a former INS agent, described how information is extracted from children. "A lot of times," he told the *New York Times*, "you can get information out of a 4- or 5-year old kid. . . . If you browbeat them enough, tell them 'We're going to leave your mama locked up forever if you don't

tell the truth,' the kid'll tell you everything."

### Children shipped back

He told of teenagers, and sometimes even younger children, being arbitrarily deported, sometimes unaccompanied.

In one case, a thirteen-year-old was deported even though she insisted she was a U.S. citizen. Under merciless interrogation, she finally "confessed" and was shipped across to Mexico. Several days later she reappeared at the border with her angry father presenting irrefutable proof of her citizenship.

Begley complained about the incident to his superiors. He was told that he empathized too much with the "illegals" and later was fired.

Sexual abuse of *mexicana* immigrants is common. Many women who live in border towns and commute to work here find themselves confronted with agents demanding sexual favors to get through to their jobs.

This vicious practice has become so widespread that in March 1979 *mexicanos* staged demonstrations on both sides of the border in El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, protesting the abuse.

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### By Harry Ring

In October the *New York Times* ran several articles by John Crewdson describing some of the abuses suffered by undocumented workers, including the victimization of women domestic workers and the plight of those who put themselves in the hands of border smugglers (or coyotes) and find themselves here in virtual peonage.

Of undocumented farm workers, Crewdson wrote: "Existence is hard enough for the illegal aliens who toil in the fields from sunup to sundown . . . for a few dollars a day, cooking over open fires, sleeping in the fields at night. . . ."

"But for those who unwittingly stumble into the underworld of the slave traders, life can be infinitely worse. Shackled with inflated debts they can never repay, they may find themselves locked up by night and guarded by day, beaten and threatened with harm or even death if they try to escape, their children held hostage to insure their continued servitude."

In a November 10 article, Crewdson returns to the subject. But this time he echoes the propaganda theme that the undocumented are taking scarce, good-paying jobs away from U.S. workers.

He reports that many undocu-

mented are bypassing the farms to find better jobs in the city. He then repeats a shopworn tale of Immigration and Naturalization Service officials. The one about the undocumented "mechanic earning \$700 a week, another . . . an upholsterer, earning \$12 an hour. A roofer earned \$11.81 an hour. . . ." And so on.

If these often-cited high-paid undocumented workers exist at all, they are an insignificant minority. As Crewdson himself reports, a growing number of employers are hiring the undocumented because "they work for less."

"They like to work," a Chicago plant executive advised. "They work hard and they show up on time, they work overtime . . . and they're relatively docile."

An INS official adds: "The citizen will gripe about working conditions. The citizen will demand workmen's compensation, will demand retirement. The alien is tickled to death to go in there and work 10 hours a day. And he knows if he doesn't show up, there's another alien standing in line to take his job."

With more than eight million unemployed, the bosses hope to get more "relatively docile" U.S. workers also "standing in line" for low-paying jobs.

That doesn't mean they have any

## The exploitation of undocumented workers



Under best of conditions, farm labor in hot southwestern United States is hard, low-paying work. For undocumented Mexican workers, it's far worse. They get lower pay, worse conditions, and are often compelled to sleep in fields.

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### Scapes

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# Mexican immigrants

## violence at the border



hostility to Mexican immigrants. Because their legal position is so precarious, many brutality at hands of 'migra' agents. Their victimization has evoked strong protests on

Some *migra* agents complain they're being victimized by all the criticism. Some even quit.

### Just horse play

One ex-agent, Wayne Lozier, told the January 13 *San Diego Union*, "I never one time saw any real abuse. Oh, maybe sometimes when we'd catch a bunch of wets and nobody would talk. Then maybe somebody's foot would get stepped on, or we'd stick a guy's head in the toilet and flush it a few times until he'd start to talk."

In the spring of 1979, the bodies of fifty *mexicanos* were discovered in a shallow grave near the border in California's Imperial Valley.

This prompted an outcry against *la migra* strong enough to compel then INS commissioner Leonel Castillo to order a probe of border violence.

It was a whitewash. It concluded that while *migra* agents sometimes took out their "frustrations" on *mexicanos*, the deaths that occurred were due to drownings or "bandits." The murderers of the fifty were never found.

### 'Self-defense'

Even in clear-cut cases, nothing really happens.

On March 17, 1979, Benito Rincón and Efren Reyes, were arrested by *migra* agent Daniel Cole, fifty yards this side of the border at San Ysidro, California.

Cole handcuffed the two men together.

Rincón later told the *New York Times* that Reyes broke away and headed back to the border. Handcuffed to him, Rincón had to follow.

Cole shot both men in the back, killing Reyes.

Cole said later that he acted in self-defense.

Edwin Miller, then San Diego district attorney, investigated. He determined that prior to running, "neither of the handcuffed men made any move to strike or kick the agent." Despite this, Miller did not press charges because Cole would have been defended by the U.S. attorney's office. In diplomatic language, the DA said prosecution would be a waste of time.

Last year, Border Patrol agent David Krohn was indicted by a San Diego grand jury after he shot a *mexicano*.

He pleaded self-defense and was acquitted even after he admitted on the witness stand that he used an unregist-

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tered "throwaway" gun to shoot the man twice in the back.

### Team spirit

The INS takes care of its own.

In Laredo, Texas, last year, a *mexicana* accused a border agent of having raped her.

She returned to Mexico, leaving her address with the INS.

As the case was being investigated, the prosecution somehow lost track of her. The charges were dropped.

In San Ysidro, an agent who was well known as a molester of *mexicanas* was caught trying to rape a thirteen-year-old in the station. The victim agreed to testify against him in court.

But the INS deported her and then refused her a reentry permit to attend the hearing. The charges were dropped. Incidents of these types are disgustingly common.

Sometimes the Justice Department tries to look like it's doing something.

Last year, for the first time in history, the Justice Department brought federal brutality charges against four Border Patrol cops in San Diego. They were accused of having established a vigilante ring within the Border Patrol for the purpose of brutalizing *mexicanos*. Two of the four were charged

specifically with having beaten a *mexicano*.

### 'Justice' at work

Charges were then dropped against one of the four. A second agreed to resign in exchange for having his trial postponed a year, with the charges to be dropped if he stayed out of trouble.

The two charged with the actual beating were convicted.

They were fined \$1,000 and given three years' probation.

There is the ugly case of Michael Kennedy, an employee of the Federal Protective Service assigned to security at the federal border crossing station at San Ysidro.

In March 1979, Kennedy was questioned about the murder of Ramona Hernández of Ensenada, Mexico. She had been stopped while entering the U.S. without papers.

Though it was not part of his duties, Kennedy had escorted her from the border inspection station to the offices of the INS. Later the victim's address and phone number were found on him.

### Case still pending

The case is still open and Kennedy is still regarded as a suspect. But he was allowed to continue his duties.

Later, in November 1979, María López de Felix, nineteen, was also stopped at the San Ysidro border station for trying to enter without papers.

She was detained briefly for questioning and ordered returned to Mexico.

Kennedy escorted the woman to the border.

Her body was found some time later. She had been raped and strangled in an abandoned customs building.

This time Kennedy was arrested and charged with rape and murder.

He also faced lesser charges of having demanded sex of the slain woman in exchange for allowing her into the United States.

### Hung Jury

The case came to trial. This past July 2, a jury deadlocked and a federal judge declared a mistrial. Kennedy is free.

Perhaps symbolically, the day before the mistrial in the Kennedy case, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 337 to 72 to increase the budget of *la migra* from \$347.7 million to \$370 million. It authorized adding 311 more Border Patrol agents and 106 more inspectors.

It's not unreasonable to assume that border crimes will increase proportionally.

present intention of driving the undocumented out or of totally sealing the Mexican border (which the rulers know is impossible).

To the contrary, the racist hue and cry against the "illegal aliens" is in large part aimed at justifying and deepening their oppression right here. As Ray Marshall, Carter's labor secretary, put it in 1977, the government wants to head off a "new civil rights struggle."

### Scapegoats

In addition, the rulers of this country are scapegoating the undocumented for the evils of this capitalist system, trying to pin on them responsibility for everything from unemployment to the spread of venereal disease.

The present increase in divisive, racist propaganda against the undocumented is part of the broader effort to strengthen the hand of right-wing forces against all working people. Fomenting hatred of "foreigners" has always been an important weapon in the arsenal of reaction.

A federal commission is now weighing legislation that would, in the name of dealing with "illegal aliens," restrict the liberties of all working people.

One proposal being considered is

that every worker be required to carry a "counterfeit-proof" ID card. Under this internal passport system, such a card would have to be presented in applying for a job. It would then be checked against information in a central federal computer. This would provide a ready-made blacklist of militant unionists and political dissidents.

An added proposal would be for fines against employers who "knowingly" hire undocumented workers. This would make even more difficult the job prospects of brown-skinned workers, and everyone else a boss deems to look "foreign."

A number of unions have begun going to bat for the rights of the undocumented. With some past exceptions, the United Farm Workers has done so. The Arizona Farm Workers Union is fighting to organize undocumented workers as has the Farm Labor Organizing Committee of Ohio and the Texas Farm Workers.

In Los Angeles, where a majority of garment workers are now undocumented, the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union broke with AFL-CIO policy to organize them. It also sought a court injunction against INS factory raids with blank warrants. In response, the

government has, at least for now, suspended such illegal-alien-hunting raids.

Also in Los Angeles, the United Auto Workers recently fought attempts to deport thirteen of its striking members.

In 1978, the Amalgamated Meat Cutters took a company to court when it refused to accept the result of a representation election because many of the workers who voted were undocumented. The union won an appeals court ruling that under labor law, undocumented workers have the same rights as others.

Other unions taking a positive stand toward the undocumented include the Steelworkers, the Retail Clerks, and the West Coast Longshore union.

### Union policy

These developments reflect growing dissent from the reactionary policy of top AFL-CIO officials. These bureaucrats echo the propaganda that undocumented workers are responsible for unemployment. They join the cry to "keep them out."

The dissent from this policy stems from a recognition that failure to support and organize the undocumented will weaken the unions.

Unorganized and at the mercy of

the employers and INS agents, the "illegal" status of the undocumented is used as a means to drive down wages and conditions.

But experience has shown that with the backing of labor, the undocumented, who have little to lose and everything to gain, can be counted on as the most militant union fighters.

For its own self-interest, labor should demand a halt to deportations, full civil rights for the undocumented, and restoration of the once open border from Mexico.

U.S. financial and industrial capital is responsible for the stunted development of the Mexican economy, which drives hundreds of thousands of its workers to come here in search of jobs. They should be able to exercise that right without victimization.

An end to the racist immigration restrictions would accomplish another progressive purpose. It would cleanse the border of the corrupt and brutal INS patrol agents who have committed the vilest crimes against those seeking to enter this country.

The accompanying article by Raúl González gives a good idea of why the Border Patrol should be abolished.



## Solidarity with Central America

## and the Caribbean



### Newsletter on El Salvador now appearing

The first issue of *El Salvador Alert!* is out. Containing much of interest to groups carrying out activities in solidarity with the revolutionary struggle in El Salvador, this newsletter is being published bi-weekly by the U.S. Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES).

*El Salvador Alert!* will help activists keep up to date on what's happening in El Salvador. A few headlines will give an idea of the news coverage: "Salvadorean military fails to control northern front," "Mercenaries in El Salvador," "Military training in Panama," "Secret arms shipment to El Salvador."

*El Salvador Alert!* outlines the main campaigns projected by the October conferences in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. that launched CISPES:

- "An anti-intervention campaign opposing all forms of U.S. involvement in El Salvador"
- "A U.S. media campaign aimed at breaking the silence and distortion in the U.S. press on the reality of the Salvadorean struggle"
- "An anti-AIFLD [American Institute for Free Labor Development] campaign which challenges AIFLD's role in the U.S.-imposed agrarian reform . . . a rural pacification program"
- "A refugee campaign . . . of aid and assistance on behalf of all Salvadoreans forced out of the country due to political reasons and the mounting repression" and
- "A fund-raising campaign."

The editorial says, "We will build as broad a movement as possible to demand the immediate end to all U.S. intervention."

"CISPES is making available literature, films, and speakers. We are organizing meetings in churches, schools, before community groups and trade unions. We plan marches and rallies, visits to Congress, campaigns



Militant/Lou Howort

in the news media. We will raise as much money as possible to help carry out this solidarity work and to alleviate the suffering of the Salvadorean people. We want to work with everyone who is committed to the goals of CISPES."

Every solidarity group should get *El Salvador Alert!* Write CISPES-East Coast, P.O. Box 12056, Washington, D.C. 20005; (202) 232-6747.

And let the editors know of local activities that would be of interest to others in the solidarity movement.

### Conference on education in Cuba

A national conference on education in Cuba will be held in Boston January 24-5. It is sponsored by the Center for Cuban Studies in conjunction with the U.S.-Cuba Educational Exchange and with the participation of the Cuban Ministry of Education.

The Center brochure says, "This is a unique opportunity to hear about Cuban education from Cuban experts—a delegation composed of experts in various fields from the Cuban Ministry of Education has accepted our invitation to participate in this important conference."

"We invite all teachers, researchers, writers, professionals and community activists interested in Cuban education to attend this conference and take part in the ongoing dialogue between Cuban and U.S. educators."

The Center is urging people to pre-register by December 15. For more information write Center for Cuban Studies, 220 E. 23 St., New York, N.Y. 10010; (212) 685-9038.

—Joel Britton

# What U.S. is up to at Madrid meeting

By Fred Feldman

The first phase of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which officially opened in Madrid November 11, has been used as a propaganda platform by the U.S. imperialists and their allies in Canada and Western Europe.

The Madrid meeting is supposed to review the application of the Helsinki pact signed in 1975 by Moscow and the other Warsaw pact governments, the NATO powers, and such unaffiliated European states as Sweden, Yugoslavia, and Austria.

In an effort to place themselves in the best possible light, the imperialists made a big point of insisting in 1975 that some sections on human rights be written into the Helsinki pact. None of the signers even intended to abide or has abided by these provisions.

On November 13, former U.S. attorney general Griffin Bell cited the names of Soviet dissidents, stating that the Kremlin had subjected "these brave people to brutal repression."

He declared that Moscow's sending of troops to Afghanistan "had cast a dark shadow over East-West relations which no meeting, no pronouncement, nothing in fact but the total withdrawal of Soviet troops can dispel."

The rhetoric got hotter as the days went by. By November 17 Max Kampelman, the co-chairman with Bell of the U.S. delegation, was declaring that Moscow and Washington were "moving precipitously toward confrontation."

"We are embarked on our program of renewed military strength," he went on, "because we have been forced to do so in the light of a massive military buildup unparalleled in world history" by the Soviet Union.

### Real purpose

Kampelman came close here to giving away the real purpose behind the imperialists' diplomatic performance in Madrid. That purpose has nothing to do with the cause of human rights in the Soviet Union or the Afghan people's right of self-determination.

The goal of Washington and its allies is to win acceptance for their war preparations by falsely portraying the Soviet Union as the main threat to world peace and its rulers as the prime opponents of human rights in the world.

They hope that a daily diet of headlines denouncing Moscow will soften up working people in Western Europe, the United States, and the other imperialist countries for stepped up arms spending and military intervention, and for the sacrifices in living standards and democratic rights that these will entail.

As part of this public relations campaign, Washington also engineered a November 20 repeat performance of the January vote in the United Nations General Assembly demanding that Soviet forces be pulled out of Afghanistan.

Among the major targets of the imperialist speechmaking at Madrid are British, Belgian, and Dutch workers who have been resisting moves to place nuclear-armed Cruise missiles in their countries. Also targeted are American workers, whose antiwar feelings turned draft registration into a political fiasco for the Carter administration last Summer.

### Imperialists' problems

The West European rulers share Washington's desire to step up arms spending and to bring more force to

bear against revolutions in the Middle East, Africa, and elsewhere. And they are as anxious as Washington to identify socialism with violation of human rights at a time of deepening economic difficulties and rising opposition to capitalism among the workers in their countries.

But even some bourgeois observers doubt that the imperialists are succeeding.

In the November 19 *New York Times*, James M. Markham commented: "This encouraging picture of a steadfast, united North Atlantic Treaty Organization facing down a wavering and divided Warsaw Pact does not conform with the harsher realities in Europe, where several Atlantic alliance countries, notably West Germany, have lately turned indecisive or reneged on promises to increase military budgets in coordination with the United States."

Among the "harsher realities" that the imperialists must take into account is the fact that they are in a relatively weaker position today than ever before in regard to their own working classes, in regard to the colonial revolution, and in regard to the workers' states.

Because of this, détente has not been shelved, although it is taking a back seat for the moment to the needs of imperialist propaganda. The imperialists still need the collaboration of the Soviet bureaucrats in maintaining class peace at home and dampening the colonial revolution abroad.

### Hypocrisy

The Madrid meeting provided some striking portraits of imperialist hypocrisy. Imagine, for instance, Griffin Bell as a paladin of human rights. As attorney general, Bell played a prime role in covering up for the crimes of secret police agencies against dissenters in the United States. He was briefly held in contempt of court for refusing to turn over the files of eighteen FBI informers to the judge hearing the Socialist Workers Party's lawsuit against FBI crimes.

Bell's denunciations of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan are a crude coverup for U.S. imperialism, which maintains an outright colony in Puerto Rico; imposes an economic blockade against Cuba because its people refuse to bow to Washington's dictates; propped up the shah of Iran and is still trying to crush the revolution that brought him down; and has dozens of U.S. advisers fighting and dying to keep a blood-soaked dictatorship in power in El Salvador.

Or take the Belgian representative, Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb. He appealed for the right of Afghanistan "to decide by itself its own destiny." Tell that to the people of Zaïre, who face slaughter by Belgian paratroopers every time they threaten to topple the Mobutu dictatorship!

It is the imperialists' drive to maintain and extend their investments, markets, and profits that is the threat to peace and human rights in the world today.

The fervid declarations about self-determination for Afghanistan are intended to smooth the way for sweeping violations of that right by Washington and its allies.

The actions of the Kremlin rulers certainly provide grist for the imperialist propaganda mill. But working people must reject with contempt the posturing of the profit-hungry enemies of humanity at Madrid.

—From Intercontinental Press



Torture. Frame-ups. Concentration camp brutality.

That's the truth about British treatment of Irish republican prisoners in the H-Block of Long Kesh prison—truth that the U.S. and British governments and the capitalist news media have conspired to cover up.

Seven of the H-Block prisoners, chosen from volunteers, began a hunger strike to the death October 27. They are demanding an end to the intolerable conditions imposed on Irish political prisoners who refuse to accept criminal status.

In response, London "has mounted a major propaganda campaign" to portray the prisoners as fanatical terrorists and to counter protests on their behalf, the *New York Times* reported November 16.

British embassies around the world, it said, are distributing a glossy new brochure that describes conditions in Long Kesh as "on a par with the best in Western Europe" and that claims the "unpleasant" conditions of the republican prisoners are self-imposed.

In this country, the liberal *Washington Post* ran an editorial November 5



warning against any softheartedness toward the prisoners. It called their hunger strike "an assault on the very tissue of authority by which any government is sustained."

The U.S. press repeatedly describes the prisoners as men convicted of murder, armed robbery, and bombings. It almost never mentions that these convictions are handed down by special juryless courts on the basis of statements extracted under torture.

For its part, the U.S. government arrested Desmond Mackin, who entered this country to organize a tour of former H-Block prisoners to tell their story. Mackin is now in a New York jail facing extradition on a frame-up charge of shooting a soldier.

The accompanying letter, sent to the *Militant* by republican prisoners in Long Kesh, is an eloquent refutation of the government and media lies.

In view of the weakened condition of the H-Block prisoners even before the hunger strike began, the possibility of deaths is becoming an immediate one.

The republican prisoners' appeal for solidarity actions and protests could not be more urgent.

# Letter from Long Kesh

## Irish prisoners tell of inhuman conditions, appeal for solidarity

To the *Militant*, SWP Comrades,

As you probably know, seven Irish Republicans held in the notorious H-blocks of Long Kesh began on October 27 the ultimate form of protest, a hunger strike to the death.

These seven men are politically aware and committed Irish Republicans, captured in the course of the struggle against British occupation of our country. They have only taken this drastic and potentially final step after long and careful consideration.

Their decision is the culmination of years of struggle and resistance by the political prisoners, which has taken them through a nightmare of brutality and torture at the hands of British Imperialism.

The anti-Imperialist War for National Liberation and Socialism being waged by the IRA has its roots in centuries of struggle against British aggression. Twelve years ago the Republican working class rose up to challenge once more their oppression and exploitation at the hands of the British ruling elite. The struggle has continued relentlessly ever since.

### Political prisoners

Political activists captured in the early '70s quickly forced the British government to recognise them as political prisoners and from then on Republican prisoners captured by the British were imprisoned in the Cages, where the political prisoners organised their own lives.

Time was used to politically educate themselves and deepen their commitment to the struggle. All attempts by the British at rehabilitation were rejected.

The recognition of the political prisoners by the government was also a clear admission that they, the British ruling class, were engaged in open war with the Irish people.

Unable to destroy the anti-Imperialist movement and at the same time unwilling to relinquish their

hold on the six Northern Counties of Ireland, the British from 1976 decided to adopt new policies. They would tell the world that normality now existed and that any trouble was being caused by a few gangsters and godfathers who were entirely self interested. Having in this way removed the spotlight of international attention they would then be in a position to release their forces "official and unofficial" in an unprecedented reign of terror and oppression to wipe out resistance to their rule.

### Criminalisation

This policy was to have its base in the criminalisation of the political prisoners, who would be forced to wear degrading prison issue uniform and to submit to the authority of pro-British Fascist screws. The British would then point to these "submissive" and "conforming criminals" as evidence that politics were not involved in this situation.

The British government, however, characteristically miscalculated and instead of submissive and conforming prisoners the Brits found themselves with politically aware, committed and dedicated men and women who threw the insult of criminality back in the face of British Imperialism.

Since 1976, when the first political prisoner entered the H-Block and was refused political recognition, a determined and defiant resistance has been maintained by the women imprisoned in Armagh Gaol and the men in H-Block, the numbers on the protest now exceeding 560 (32 women and 530 men).

Of course the Brit tactic would only work if they could exhibit these prisoners accepting and conforming to the tag of criminal, so torture increased in an attempt to break the resistance of the prisoners.

### Inhuman conditions

The protesting Republicans were left naked in their cells with no furniture (except for a piece of foam

rubber, a supposed mattress), no reading material, no radios, no newspapers, no cigarettes, no letters or parcels. They were denied any exercise unless they wore prison uniform, on rejecting this 24 hour isolation resulted.

They were told to wear the uniform to gain the "privilege" of using the toilet. The prisoners again refused, were denied the use of the toilets, and the no-wash protest began. (They have now lived in their cells unwashed for 18 months, their urine poured out through the doors and their excreta plastered on the walls.)

Systematic organised beatings increased alarmingly. Obscene body searches are now a daily occurrence, whereby a metal probe is pushed up a prisoner's anus supposedly to check for contraband but actually as a further punishment. The brutalities are endless.

The prisoners have lived with this inhuman treatment for an incredible period of four and a half years.

### Slow death

The British government has dismissed the mass support on the streets for the political prisoners and ignored all international pressure to resolve the situation.

Now the prisoners, unable to bear these conditions any longer, have started this agonising protest of slow death in an attempt to force the British administration to recognise what the whole world already does, that they are political prisoners and the War between the Irish people and the British Imperialists continues unabated.

(The fact that only Republican prisoners are subject to the above mentioned tortures demonstrates that the British do treat them differently from ordinary prisoners.)

The hypocrisy of the British administration is evident in the fact that 200 Republicans imprisoned before 1976 are still recognized as

political prisoners and are held with full political status in the Cages of Long Kesh, less than 200 yards from the H-Blocks.

### Five demands

The five demands of our protesting sisters and brothers are very basic and simply ask that they be treated in a humane manner. The five demands are:

1. The right to wear their own clothes.
2. The right to abstain from prison work.
3. The right to associate freely and organise their own education and recreation, etc.
4. The right to receive one visit, one parcel, and to send and receive one letter per week.
5. The restoration of all remission which has been taken from them as further punishment during the protest.

As I have already stated these conditions already exist here in the Cages of Long Kesh, and that the only difference between us and our brothers and sisters in the H-Blocks and Armagh is that we were captured before 1976 and they after.

### Urgent appeal

Starvation diets for four and half years have left the prisoners in an emaciated condition. They cannot last long on hunger strike.

So I make this urgent appeal to you and your readers to act now, in whatever manner possible, to help save the lives of our seven comrades on hunger strike and to stop the torture of our 32 sisters in Armagh Gaol and our 530 brothers in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh.

A victory for the political prisoners is a defeat for Imperialism.

In solidarity,  
The Republican POWs  
The Cages  
Long Kesh



## Texas meatcutters win support in contract fight

By Ellen Dorfman and Bob Warren

HOUSTON—In a show of working-class solidarity, more than 5,000 grocery clerks and cashiers here, organized in United Food and Commercial Workers Local 455, voted unanimously to support members of UFCW Local 408 in its contract battle with four major supermarket chains.

Local 408, which represents meatcutters, went on strike at Kroger's food stores and was subsequently locked out at three other big supermarkets the day the union's contract expired.

The clerks and cashiers in Local 455 face upcoming contract negotiations with the same four companies. The two UFCW locals recently merged.

The strike has also received support from the Teamsters who deliver goods to the supermarkets.

Among the issues in the meatcutters' contract fight are a decent Cost of Living Allowance (COLA); maintaining present health and welfare benefits; maintaining current pension rates for present and future hires; better vacation plans; and a guarantee that 80 percent of those working full-time now will be full-time at the end of the three-year contract.

The companies have refused to grant any of these demands.

The union has vowed not to sign any contract unless every employee is assured of reinstatement after the strike.

## Disabled hold sit-in at NYC transit offices

By David Brandt

NEW YORK—Seventy disabled people, most of them in wheelchairs, held a sit-in at the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) executive offices here November 21.

Thirty disabled and their supporters, including at least one transit worker, protested downstairs.

Police carried out the occupiers at 5:30 that evening.

The action was in response to the MTA's continued refusal to comply with Section 504 of U.S. law. This requires those who receive federal funds to make transportation accessible to the disabled.

This fall the MTA decided to not even submit a plan for compliance with the law. It claims that making transit accessible would cost too much money.

The MTA also says that transit for the disabled should be provided by vans separate from the buses and subways. Disabled activists fear such a separate system would be phased out leaving them no access to transportation.

The Joint New York City Section 504 Transportation Citizens' Advisory Committee has proposed an "Alternative Transition Plan." The plan shows how access for the disabled could be provided at much less than the cost estimated by the MTA.

The MTA is not interested in the fact that the committee's plan would offer improvements for all riders in the city.

The MTA refuses to accept that regardless of the cost, accessible transit for the disabled is a civil right, and for many, a question of the right to a job as well.

## Louisiana oil workers face union-busting attack

NEW ORLEANS—When the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union went on strike against oil refineries early this year, there was some feeling the companies would agree to a quick settlement.

But it did not work out that way. Their wealth and ability to keep refineries running with scab labor led to a long strike. But the OCAW strikers also showed a lot more determination than the companies expected.

The strike became a confrontation. The survival of the union was threatened in a number of places. One of the most serious was at the Goodhope Refineries near here.

The Goodhope battle is still on. Goodhope owner Jack Stanley began a serious offensive against the maintenance workers more than two years ago.

His first serious move was the idea of hiring a maintenance crew under a phony company setup claiming that they were contracted out. The phony company, dubbed "TCP," gave the newly hired workers their own uniforms, bus transportation, and other benefits the union did not have. When the union went out on strike on February 29, joining the rest of the refinery workers, the main issues were that of the TCP and unsafe working conditions.

On April 1 the company made a proposal to contract out maintenance

workers. On April 2 the union proposed to go back to work unconditionally. The company did not accept the workers back to work until April 14. The union considers that period of time a lockout and is filing a suit with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) on that issue.

Then on August 13 Stanley gave out pink slips to fifty-two maintenance workers. They were told they were being terminated because their jobs were being eliminated. The union is taking steps in the courts to fight this.

Gail Simmons, president of Goodhope OCAW Local 4-447, was fired about a week prior to the maintenance terminations. The company had hired about thirty-five TCP workers during the strike and lockout period. Simmons was accused of signing them up in the union during working hours. This is also being contested through the NLRB. The company had hired many of these workers as operators as well as in the maintenance department.

The union views these hirings as an attempt to destroy the union. The union continues to fight the company in the courts and through the NLRB. Stanley and his company are busy consolidating the attack. It is now becoming evident that the company is going for broke. They are calling for a decertification election with the remaining 120 OCAW workers.

## Racist child-murders protested in Atlanta

By Michael Penneck

ATLANTA—It was called a "Walk Remembrance." On Sunday, November 23, 300 Atlantans assembled at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, then marched to Central City Park to protest the murder of fifteen Black children.

The march was also called to protest the rise of violence by the Nazis and Klan. There were many on the march from Atlanta's Jewish community. The bombings and killings at a Paris synagogue in October were being commemorated as well.

At the downtown rally, Earl Shin-

holder of the Southeast Regional NAACP condemned the racist violence taking place across the country and said the election of Reagan has encouraged the right wing.

He said our task in demonstrating is to "fight the overall climate and philosophy that allows the individual to act out their violence."

In other developments, 300 people joined the seventh weekly search for clues in the child murders. The hunt this Saturday was in neighboring DeKalb County, looking for Christopher Richardson, one of the missing children.



November 23 march

## Hines frame-up dropped, but freedom still blocked

By Robin David

BIRMINGHAM—On November 21 a Jefferson County jury, eleven whites and one Black, declared Tommy Lee Hines incompetent to stand trial for allegedly raping a white woman in Decatur, Alabama, in 1978.

Hines is a twenty-eight-year-old severely retarded Black man.

His case became a national focus for the civil rights movement in 1978 and '79. A series of demonstrations was organized in Decatur by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to protest the frame-up.

Richard Hines, Tommy Lee's father, said, "I'm proud they freed my son for

something he didn't do. They dogged him for three years."

He said he wanted to take his son home with him.

However, Tommy Lee Hines's freedom is still not assured.

Presiding Judge Charles Crowder said, "I'm following the state statute, which says put him in a state hospital until he's found competent to stand trial."

Rev. Abraham Woods, president of the Birmingham SCLC, told the *Militant* that SCLC has no intention of watching Hines "languish in a state institution."

"We plan to get Tommy Lee Hines cleared of all charges," Woods said.

## 2,000 Black students march

By Newton Brown

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Two thousand students, faculty members, and other supporters marched here November 17 in defense of Cheyney State College's right to exist.

Cheyney is a Black state college whose future has been jeopardized by recent actions of federal and state officials.

In the name of "school desegregation" officials are trying to force Cheyney to become a predominantly white college in exchange for funding.

Chants and speeches at the protest defended the role of Cheyney and Black colleges like it in helping to provide an equal education for Black youth.

Speakers at the rally included Black columnist and television commentator Tony Brown and the Cheyney State faculty union and student body presidents.



September march on Washington to save Black schools. Pennsylvania students are continuing fight.



# Witch-hunt against Berkeley mayor

A November 2 article in the *San Francisco Examiner* attacked Berkeley, California, Mayor Gus Newport for traveling to Cuba and attending international conferences on issues such as peace and Puerto Rican independence.

The article alleges that the Black mayor "fails to report who pays his bills."

The real point of the article comes through in a classical witch-hunt attack:

"Testifying earlier this year before a House Intelligence subcommittee, CIA Deputy Director of Operations John McMahon described the Helsinki-based World Peace Council as the largest of thirteen



MAYOR GUS NEWPORT

politicians take. When public funds are used to send officials and their hangers-on to study surf conditions in Hawaii, nothing is said.

But let a Black leader take an interest and get involved in international politics and there is an immediate uproar.

After Malcolm X returned from Africa for the last time he confided to friends several days before his assassination that he believed the CIA would kill him. Martin Luther King's opposition to the Vietnam war was criticized as irrelevant for Blacks.

When Reverend Jesse Jackson and Dr. Joseph Lowery met with Palestinian leaders in the Middle East the attacks on them were furious.

The government is threatening now to take action against Jesse Jackson for supposed ties with Libya.

The attack on Gus Newport refers to his membership in a "small committee created to help a new and struggling government that took control of Grenada, a Caribbean island with a population of 113,000, in a bloodless coup."

What's wrong with that?

Why doesn't the *Examiner* do an expose of why the U.S. government is protecting the deposed dictator of Grenada, Eric Gairy, who lives in San Diego and is raising funds and organizing counter-revolutionaries to attack that country?

Gus Newport's support for revolutionary Grenada benefits Black Americans, and it benefits the working people of Berkeley, California. We have everything to gain from the dialogue created by visits such as those of Mayor Gus Newport.

The international involvement of Gus Newport, Jesse Jackson, Joseph Lowery and other Black leaders is a step forward. Their solidarity with liberation movements in the Mideast, Africa, Latin America, and with peace advocates internationally helps expose the policy of the U.S. government and big business.

I hope Gus Newport keeps on traveling and publicizes international issues even more back in Berkeley and elsewhere.

—Carl Finamore

## AS I SEE IT

Soviet front groups used in propaganda campaigns."

Newport has made no secret about attending World Peace Council meetings in Helsinki and Vienna. Interviewed in the *Examiner*, Newport defended his participation and spending whatever money was involved: "I don't think it's so bad spending money when it's for peace. We spend enough money for arms and things. It certainly cost much less than it cost to build one rifle."

The *Examiner* article follows repeated attacks on Newport from conservative politicians and others.

You rarely see attacks on the usual junkets

# 'Nicaragua has become one big school'

By Lorraine Thiebaud

MANAGUA—For the first time in any country an entire population will be drawn into the creation of a new educational system. That was how Nicaraguan Minister of Education Carlos Tunnermann explained the significance of the National Educational Inquiry (CNE) November 7.

Speaking at a rally to commemorate the death of Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) founder Carlos Fonseca Amador, Tunnermann said that the purpose of the CNE is "to carry out a profound reform of the national educational system, to convert education into a key factor in the humanistic transformation of Nicaragua.

guan society, and to give education a critical and liberating orientation. This reform will . . . include all phases from preschool education through higher education."

The CNE will be carried out by thirty-four work groups which will later form a permanent consultative body linked to the Ministry of Education.

Groups invited to participate include the Association of Nicaraguan Women (AMNLAE) the July 19 Sandinista Youth; the Sandinista Defense Committees (CDSs); all trade-union organizations; the association of indigenous people (Miskitos, Sumos, and Ramas)

MISURASATA; and the National Association of Clerics.

Also participating will be educational organizations such as the National Foundation of Catholic Schools and the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua.

Junta member Sergio Ramirez pointed out at the same meeting that the educational inquiry is a reflection of the real democracy that exists in Nicaragua today.

Ramirez emphasized the tremendous achievements made by the revolution in the field of education in just one year. Not only was the illiteracy rate reduced from 50 percent to 12 percent by the national literacy campaign, but

today more than one million people in a population of 2.6 million are participating in the educational system.

There are 25,000 children in pre-school education; 550,000 in primary schools; 122,000 in high schools and technical schools; and 33,000 in the university. Also, some 300,000 graduates of the literacy campaign are now enrolled in accelerated primary education.

Ramirez said, "We do not just talk about democracy, we exercise all possible forms of democracy. It is truly democratic that today Nicaragua has become one big school."

From Intercontinental Press

## ...Nicaragua

Continued from page 7

before the revolutionary victory. Wheelock declared that there has been no deviation from the basic premises of that program.

"But it is necessary to point out," he added, "that a program that is drawn up in the midst of an unequal war cannot be a definitive, perfect document. It was necessary to make some changes, changes that in any case favored our people. They have criticized us, saying that we have deviated, and we have to recognize that, yes, of course we have deviated. But it is not the people that have criticized this deviation, because this deviation has been in favor of the interests of the people."

The COSEP argues about the letter of the June 1979 program in order to avoid any discussion of the real class interests that are driving them into opposition. But as the demonstrations of the past two weeks have shown, and as Wheelock explained November 19, the process taking place in Nicaragua cannot be contained by the wording of one or another document. It is a mass revolution whose driving force is the defense of the interests of the working people.

### Economic problems

The bourgeoisie based its hopes on speculation that the FSLN was losing popularity because of ongoing economic difficulties. They counted on

being able to defy the FSLN and win popularity by promising that the problems could be rapidly resolved if only they could have more influence over the government and the economy.

Wheelock answered them:

"If we had wanted to demonstrate to them how popular the ideas of Sandinism and the revolution are, it would have been enough to tell the workers and peasants 'From today on, all the farms and factories of this country are yours, put them into production. And you will know how to produce with your hands, with your experience, and with your patriotic fervor.'"

But, Wheelock continued, "that was not the position of a revolutionary leadership that had to understand things above and beyond slogans and party politics. And we are ready to sacrifice our own popularity, if in doing so we can solve today's problems and build a future and the homeland of tomorrow."

"But today," Wheelock emphasized, "so long as it is necessary to defend the homeland against imperialist aggression, as long as it is necessary to defend our country from Somozaism, so long as it is necessary to defend the revolutionary program, we are never going to permit the reactionary bourgeoisie to return to power as they would like."

Wheelock spoke for almost two hours but the attention of the crowd never flagged and when he finished by shouting "Patria Libre!" the "O Morir!" that answered him from 100,000 throats was the loudest heard here for a long time.

From Intercontinental Press

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## 'La Prensa' slander campaign

# Nicaraguan capitalists sharpen attacks

By Lars Palmgren  
and Lorraine Thiebaud

MANAGUA—The objective of recent counterrevolutionary acts and provocations in Nicaragua is to weaken the confidence of the masses in the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Some of the most obvious provocations are those of the daily bourgeois opposition newspaper, *La Prensa*.

There are only three daily papers in Nicaragua—*La Prensa*, *El Nuevo Diario*, and the FSLN daily *Barricada*.

*El Nuevo Diario* was founded in May 1980 after a conflict at *La Prensa* led most of the journalists and technicians to walk out and form their own paper. Since then, *La Prensa* has become strictly the voice of the bourgeoisie. The progressive journalists who previously worked for it now all work for *El Nuevo Diario*.

But *La Prensa* is the oldest newspaper in Nicaragua, and many people still associate its name with the important role it played in opposing the Somoza dictatorship.

It has a well-established distribution system, and still has the largest circulation of the three dailies. Its influence is not easily counteracted by the two papers that support the revolution. Lack of money prevents the majority of people from reading more than one daily paper.

### Attacks on revolution

Since May, *La Prensa* has been using its influence to attack the revolution. These attacks are not always open, or only on the editorial page. Rather, *La Prensa* has developed a technique whereby the selection of news, the layout of headlines, and the use of quotation marks often play as big a role as the actual content of articles.

The handling of international news is important to *La Prensa's* efforts to confuse its readers. The image of the world situation conveyed by *La Prensa* is that freedom-loving people the world over are fighting against communist dictatorships.

The Cubans who emigrated to Miami "in search of liberty" are some of *La Prensa's* heroes. Another Cuban frequently quoted by *La Prensa* is Huber Matos, who recently founded a new Cuban exile organization in Venezuela that aims to "crush the Castro dictatorship."

*La Prensa* joyfully greeted the election results in Jamaica with bold headlines declaring "Marxists Routed in Jamaica."

And when it comes to El Salvador, *La Prensa* joins its political idols—Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins and his Costa Rican colleague Carazo—in cheering on the military/Christian Democratic junta. According to *La Prensa*, the real "revolutionaries" in El Salvador are the members of the junta, who are caught between the "extreme right" and the "extreme left."

To sum it up, *La Prensa's* view of the world is in complete accord with that of the U.S. State Department.

What *La Prensa* fails to report is also significant. For example, on the anniversary of the death of FSLN founder Carlos Fonseca Amador, *La Prensa* initiated a campaign to have Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, the publisher of *La Prensa* who was murdered by Somoza's agents in January 1978, declared a national hero. It wrote nothing of Carlos Fonseca.

### Divide working class

When the Sandinista Workers Federation (CST) recently called for a conference of all the trade-union organizations in Nicaragua, *La Prensa's* only comment was a small article titled "CST Insists: A Single Federation." The article never mentioned the con-



Top, front page of recent issue of 'La Prensa' with headline: 'Marxists crushed in Jamaica.' Bottom, union members march in demonstration earlier this year. Banner reads, 'Raise production, crush the counterrevolution.'

tent of the CST's proposal.

Some days later *La Prensa* published a document by the bourgeois Social Democratic Party protesting strongly against attempts to limit "trade union pluralism." For *La Prensa* and the bourgeoisie, "trade union pluralism" means the existence of competing union federations, dividing the working class and benefitting the bosses.

Another important event in recent weeks was the special training of thousands of militia members organized into the Commander Ezequiel Brigade. These working-class men and women have volunteered to reinforce Nicaragua's northern border, where counter-revolutionary bands from Honduras have been launching attacks. *La Prensa* did not write a word about this.

*La Prensa's* letters column is also devoted to attacking the revolution. The editors find this technique especially useful, since they can always disclaim responsibility for the contents of these "letters." No effort is made to verify the accuracy of the allegations in these letters. If it turns out that the contents are false, *La Prensa* never bothers to inform its readers.

For example, on October 24 the paper published a letter allegedly received by a member of the Social Christian Party (PSC) in León, in which the PSC militant was threatened with death if he did not leave his party or get out of town. The letter appeared over the signature of the "Western Sandinista Coordinating Committee."

The fact that the "Western Sandinista Coordinating Committee" does not exist is well known to the journalists at *La Prensa* and in any case is easy to verify. But no clarification was

ever published. A letter sent in response by the FSLN Departmental Directorate in León was not published either.

### Religion

On October 22 *La Prensa* printed a letter signed by one "Armando Rojas," purportedly an economics student at the National Autonomous University (UNAN). The letter was published under big headlines saying "Economics Student Outlines Government's Marxist Plan."

It included:

All vestiges of religion are to be erased from the consciousness of the Nicaraguan people. Since Marxism is essentially an economic system based on the atheistic principles of historical materialism, it considers religion of any kind to be the greatest obstacle to the exercise of total power.

One need not read many lines of this before realizing that Armando Rojas is either a fake or a fool. No Marxist would write in this way. But it is not uncommon for ignorant bourgeois opponents of Marxism to produce such fabrications. And the contents of this letter coincide closely with what *La Prensa* implies is the real program of the FSLN.

*Barricada* checked at the National Autonomous University and found that no student named Armando Rojas was enrolled in economics or in any other department of the university. *La Prensa* has made no comment or retraction.

But the main thrust of *La Prensa's* campaign has been against the Sandinista armed forces, and its provocations in this regard have not been so amateurish as the "Rojas" letter.

The Sandinista army, police, and

militia are the chief villains in the rumormongering and in the daily complaints in the letters column. When an incident or accident involving the armed forces takes place, it is sure to be on *La Prensa's* front pages for days.

### Police policy

Such an accident occurred in Managua on October 19. As part of an effort to round up a criminal band, roadblocks were set up by the Sandinista police. When a taxi driver refused to stop at the roadblock and ignored repeated orders to halt, a Sandinista police officer shot at the wheels of the escaping vehicle. He missed and a female passenger was injured.

A terrible accident. But for *La Prensa*, it was an opportunity to heap suspicion and disrepute on the police.

In the week following this accident *La Prensa* published several more articles about police shooting at cars that failed to stop at roadblocks. The implication was that the police enjoy shooting indiscriminately at cars.

The rumormongering reached such proportions that Minister of the Interior Tomás Borge called a special news conference to deal exclusively with the taxi incident.

Borge first clarified the police policy concerning the use of weapons. "The police are prohibited from using arms except in self-defense, when they are threatened," he said. Borge added that, unlike the situation when Somoza's National Guard was in control, those police officers accused of inappropriate use of weapons were immediately suspended from the police force, tried, and punished.

Borge went on to clarify the innumerable falsifications and omissions in *La Prensa's* reporting of incidents concerning the police. In the case of Urania González, the injured woman taxi passenger, Borge said the government was assuming full responsibility for her medical care and would be sending her to Venezuela or Mexico for further treatment.

But, Borge pointed out, *La Prensa* had never mentioned that the taxi driver was found to be completely drunk and had shouted insults at the police while refusing to halt.

"*La Prensa* writes about the police with the objective of creating distrust," Borge said. "Their aim is to create lack of confidence in the FSLN and the government. *La Prensa* takes an isolated example, which it does not even describe correctly, and says, 'This is the way the police act, this is what the FSLN and the government represent.'"

"It is no accident that *La Prensa* directs its attacks against our armed forces," Borge explained. "They know that our armed forces do not represent their class interests, but the interests of the workers, the peasants, the poor people. They know that the armed forces are the guarantee that this revolution is going to continue."

The day after Borge's news conference, *La Prensa* reported only that the policeman would be punished and that the police were forbidden to use their weapons. It said nothing about the objective problems discussed by Borge, nor about the additional information he provided on the accident.

Commander Bayardo Arce, FSLN political secretary, said at a November 8 meeting commemorating the death of FSLN founder Carlos Fonseca Amador: "There are those who think . . . they are going to divert the course of our revolution. . . . Others think we are going to soften up, and thus they will gain ground. Both are mistaken."

Arce emphasized: "We will not tolerate further provocations against the revolution. We are clear about this game, and we are ready to confront them."

From Intercontinental Press



# In Review

## 'Ashes and Diamonds'

*Ashes and Diamonds.* By Jerry Andrezejewski. New York, Penguin Books, 1980. 239 pp. Paper, \$9.95.

*Ashes and Diamonds*, published in 1948 in Poland and only this year in the United States, is a fine novel that casts light on the origins of the bureaucracy against which Polish workers have been carrying on their heroic struggle.

Its seventy-one-year-old author has been acclaimed since 1938 as one of Poland's leading writers. The movie based on this novel, on which he collaborated, won an international prize in 1959.

Andrezejewski's reputation made his open letter

## Books

to the worker militants of the brief general strike four years ago, who were being vilified and victimized, all the more significant. In it he hailed them as "fighters for genuine socialist democracy and social freedoms."

The political perception evident in this statement is implicit also in *Ashes and Diamonds*, with its panoramic depiction of Polish society in flux in the three days before the surrender of Nazi Germany. We see a Poland utterly exhausted by the ravages of war. Moreover, the masses cannot bring themselves to rejoice, being deeply suspicious of Stalin's army that had defeated the Nazis and is on Polish soil.

This is perceived by Szczuka, an honest, dedicated, and intelligent Communist Party functionary, a survivor of the Nazi concentration camps and of the resistance struggle. But he willfully deludes himself that Stalin's regime is revolutionary internationalist. We also see that the Communist Party, thanks to the socialist tradition of the workers and the Communist role in the resistance, has a mass base in the working class.

### Dialogue

In a significant dialogue with his friend Kalicki, a leader of the Socialist Party, Szczuka charges him with having been defeated by life because Kalicki forecasts that the new regime, dominated by the Russians, will have no use for men of integrity.

Kalicki, whose wife and two sons were killed in the resistance movement, tacitly admits that his own spirit has been crushed. He states that Szczuka in his heart knows that his forecast is true.

In the extraordinary difficulty of the Polish situation, neither is able to think in terms of working for the expropriation of the old ruling classes while teaching the masses to maintain their independence from the Soviet bureaucracy.

In the self-contradictory process of a "revolution from above," in which the masses are called into play only in the most limited and bureaucratically controlled manner, cynical careerists are attracted to the party and the regime like flies to sugar.

Andrezejewski shows the advance of Swiecki, a hack journalist without either talent or principle, from mayor of the provincial city, in which the action takes place to a ministerial post.

Such careerists may wind up on the side of counterrevolution if circumstance gets in the way of their search for the sweets of power. In a farcical episode Swiecki's secretary, who intends to get ahead through his boss, whom he secretly despises, gets drunk and ruins his chances. In bitter resentment he joins the counterrevolutionary underground.

### Underground

This underground is dominated by officers of the old army. Its members have no political perspective other than to kill as many Communist activists as they can. They blindly obey orders without any hope of really altering the political situation. This reactionary underground killed thousands before it was suppressed.

The old order, which the counterrevolution would restore, is represented by a group of aristocrats. Vapid and superficial, they live only for the moment although they dream of a restoration or of escaping to exile.

The action jumps about among the many intricately linked characters like the cuts from scene to scene in a film. Often the effect of the juxtapositions is highly ironic.

One rich source of irony is that in this thoroughly shaken-up society people are unaware of what those closest to them are thinking and doing. Parents do not know that their children are terrorists; a wife

does not know that her husband, returned from a Nazi concentration camp, had been an orderly participating in the beating and killing of prisoners.

The focus for the action is the city's chief hotel, whose pre-war cabaret life is resuming. Its owner fawns upon aristocrats and Communist officials alike.

In a magnificent scene, at a banquet for Communist functionaries, the more dedicated officials leave early but the careerists stay to carouse all night. At day break, as they leave the banquet room of the hotel, they are joined by the tipsy aristocrats from the cafe.

A black-market operator proposes that they all greet the new day together. He presides over a dance, a polonaise in honor of their country, that is led by the Communist mayor Swiecki and a countess.

This is the dawn of the new Poland.

### Reason for hope

Pessimism concerning the future of Poland is alleviated by the fact that remaining alone at the bar are a young aristocrat disgusted by the members of his class and an idealistic young Communist functionary, who proposes to the young aristocrat that he join the Communists. The best of the younger generation, who refuse to join in the dance, in which the dancers are like bowing and scraping puppets, are reason for hope.

In the ironic conclusion of the novel Szczuka is assassinated by a young terrorist who has fallen in love and decided that this will be his last terrorist act before starting a new life. But the terrorist himself is shot down by a patrol immediately afterward.

Szczuka is killed just after he has learned of how his wife, who died in a concentration camp, sustained the other prisoners by her kindness, courage, self-sacrifice, and belief in victory. His own faith in humanity is thereby revived, and he dies with a peace of mind he has not had for a long time.

Such human beings as Szczuka and his wife are the diamonds amid the ashes of post-war Poland, with its burned-out buildings and burned-out men and women. They are the promise of a new and shining Poland in the future.

—Paul Siegel

## 'Jack Kerouac, the Beats, and America'

*Desolate Angel: Jack Kerouac, the Beats, and America.* By Dennis McNally. New York, Random House, 1979. 400 pp. \$15.00.

The media created an image of the typical "beatnik": a bearded young man lying on a dirty mattress, strung out on drugs, listening to bongo music, and reading Jack Kerouac.

In fact, the same journalists who erected this stereotype played a part in

intellectual battles in the classroom.

After an injury decided him against a football career, he returned to Lowell and then hit the road—a vagrant bent on a glimpse of America.

Returning to New York in 1944, he met three men who opened a new stage in his life: Lucien Carr, Allen Ginsberg, and William S. Burroughs.

They met at a turning point. In 1945 the first atomic bomb exploded at Hiroshima, killing 70,000 people. The existence of weapons of such awesome power placed a question mark over the future existence of the human race. For Kerouac and his colleagues it meant history and morality were dead; what mattered was the here and now.

Then in 1946, Dennis McNally wrote, "The door burst open and Neal Cassady stood naked before them, his well-muscled athlete's body radiating energy, a Nietzschean 'sideburned hero of the snowy West.'"

Cassady and Kerouac set off on an odyssey across the United States.

Cassady personified the energy that Kerouac wanted to bring to his writing. The two men found in each other a spirit of rebellion against the conformity of American culture. In 1951, Kerouac sat down in his kitchen on Twentieth Street in New York and began to write the story of Cassady and the road.

After twenty days the book was finished. Then began a battle for publication that took six years. When *On*

*the Road* appeared in 1957, it was greeted with a storm of anger by the critics.

"To understand *On the Road*," McNally comments, "one somehow needed an affinity for the intuitive and the sensual, for the romantic quest as opposed to the generally analytic realm of the critics. Since most critics had never experienced anything like the *Road*, they denied its existence as art and proclaimed it a 'Beat Generation' tract of rebellion, then pilloried it as immoral."

Attacks on *On the Road* were part of a general critical assault on the Beat Generation writers. In early 1959, the University of Chicago blocked publication of the *Chicago Review*, the university's literary magazine, which was to have featured articles by Kerouac, Burroughs, and Gregory Corso. All but one member of the *Review's* editorial board resigned in protest.

But the attacks on the *Road* and his subsequent works broke Kerouac's spirit. He began to drink with increasing intensity. On October 21, 1969, he died at his home in Florida.

The Beat Generation that Kerouac chronicled was an attempt to break from the cultural stagnation and mediocrity of the 1950s. It had no connection with political movements. Kerouac, after a brief flirtation with Marxism, became an anticommunist.

The energy and anger soon collapsed into mysticism. Kerouac turned to Bud-

dism and, before his death, Catholicism; Ginsberg to Indian religions; and Cassady to the writings of the mystic and con man Edgar Cayce.

The Beats were profoundly intellectual. That distinguished them from the hippies and other countercultural movements of the 1960s. They studied previous cultural advances in order to try to move to a higher plane.

Their influence on later generations was immense. In rock and roll, says McNally, "William Burroughs' work contributed names to the rock groups Steely Dan and Soft Machine, as well as phrases in several songs by the Rolling Stones."

*On the Road* decisively influenced two of the demigods of rock. David Bowie got his copy at age twelve and says he was never the same again. Janis Joplin found hers in Texas and left for the West Coast, there to become the queen of rock and roll.

Bob Dylan and the comedian Lenny Bruce were influenced by the Beats. Bruce freed himself of the traditional comic bounds because of the assault the Beats had carried out on the bastions of American culture. He and Dylan picked up much of their poetry and word association from the writing of Kerouac and Burroughs.

The Beat Generation challenged prevailing values and fought to the best of their ability for a new vision art. For that, we should be grateful.

—Peter Archer

## Books

driving Jack Kerouac to his death in 1969 at the age of forty-seven.

Kerouac is probably best known as the man who coined the phrase "Beat Generation." Beat, to Kerouac, meant "tired, burned out—slinking hipsters who knew."

He was born in 1922 in Lowell, Massachusetts, son of a Québécois immigrant. He spent his childhood in the small-town atmosphere of corner drugstores, jalopies, and vaudeville, although the newspapers could occasionally disturb this sleepy life with headlines about the Republic Steel massacre, or strikes in Minneapolis, Toledo, and Flint.

A football scholarship took Jack to Columbia University, where he fought





**Makes sense**—Defending the doctrine of papal infallibility, the pope explained, "For if one shakes or destroys that essential foundation, the most elementary truths of our faith also begin to disintegrate."

**Pretty grim**—Current meetings of the American Petroleum Institute reflect our serious times, advises the *New York Times*. Like, in the carefree olden days, Standard Oil used to serve "mountains of Oysters Rockefeller." But Standard's successor, Exxon, hasn't served an oyster in six years.

**Takes your mind off the total**—TV sets are being installed above supermarket cash registers so you can watch commercials while waiting to be taken.

**God helps those who help themselves**—A group of "Christian economists" met in Los Angeles to grapple with whether or not capitalism could be justified by the bible. They noted such passages as, "The love of money

is the root of all evil." To which Christian capitalists respond that the bible doesn't condemn wealth, only the worship of wealth.

**Making do**—Governor Carey of New York will have to wait until 1983 for a wage increase—from \$85,000 to \$100,000. However, while he's waiting, his present \$15,000-a-year expense account will be changed to a no-limit swindle sheet.

**Bargain burials**—A Maryland pet cemetery will inter your animal for fees ranging up to \$1,700. But that includes a velvet-lined mahogany casket and bronze grave marker. Now the operator is considering another cemetery for low-income pet owners. With a plain casket and cement marker, the fee will be under \$100.

**If we could make the boss pay**—A San Francisco resident picks up a few dollars a day by walking around with a sign, "Abuse me verbally. 25¢ three minutes. Call me anything." He ex-

plains: "I've been abused since day one. So I figured why not make a buck on it."



**Shop early for xmas**—"The Anatomical Studies of Leonardo da Vinci" will be published here in a three-volume limited edition. It will cost \$6,600, but it's bound in royal-blue Nigerian goatskin.

## By Any Means Necessary

### It's happening in KKKanada, too

The Ku Klux Klan is organizing in Canada. That's right.

And for all of you who thought the racist group only unfurled its sheets in the southern United States—below the Mason Dixon Line—you've got another thought coming.

For the Klan, the Mason Dixon Line begins somewhere near the North Pole.

My guess is that the Klan figured since the Underground Railroad extended across the Canadian border, they had their bigoted express follow the route of escaped slaves.

Contrast, a Canadian Black weekly newspaper has been running articles about KKK activity and the response by Blacks and others. *Socialist Voice*, newspaper of the Revolutionary Workers League, has also reported on anti-Klan actions.

According to the Committee for Racial Equality, an anti-Klan group based in Toronto, the Canadian KKK was founded in 1921. That was during the period when lynching Blacks was a regular pastime in the U.S.

The revitalization of the Klan in Canada coincides with the increase of racist attacks on this side of the border.

While I was in Buffalo, I noticed that Canadian journalists and television stations were paying close attention to the circumstances surrounding the racist murders of six Blacks.

In June, the Klan opened an office in Toronto and announced a Canadian recruiting drive. Now there are KKK dens—the smallest KKK unit—in Clifford and Walkerton, Ontario.

Besides Blacks, the Klan has targeted East Indians and Asians.

In October, a six-year-old East Indian boy was murdered in Toronto. Responding to police procrastination, a group of East Indians demonstrated in front of the Ontario Attorney General's office demanding an investigation.

Community leaders suspect KKK involvement. Klan graffiti have appeared on the walls and elevators in the apartment building where East Indians live. And suspected Klanners living in the building moved out without notice a few days after the boy's body was found.

There are reports that the Klan is recruiting in the schools.

They haven't ignored the workplace either.

## Osborne Hart



Alexander McQuirter, Canadian Klan organizer, explained the reason his group moved to Walkerton is because they are concerned the Union Carbide plant will hire non-whites when it expands there.

Resurgence of the Klan in Canada, however, has not gone unchallenged.

On October 4, 600 demonstrators marched down Toronto's Yonge Street shouting "No way KKK" and "Smash the Klan!" The same day, 500 people gathered in Vancouver for an anti-Klan rally.

Canadian unions—notably the Canadian Union of Postal Workers and the Canadian Farmworkers Union—have been right in the center of anti-Klan protests. And the British Columbia Federation of Labor featured in the September issue of its newspaper an article on the Klan's racist, antilabor history.

Blacks and East Indians, Jewish and civil rights groups have mounted educational programs and demonstrations.

Broad mobilizations of the unions as well as oppressed nationalities can be the beginning of a movement to defeat the racist thugs in Canada, the United States, and internationally.

## What's Going On

### KENTUCKY LOUISVILLE

**COMMUNITY RALLY.** Hear Rev. Ben Chavis. To honor those who struggled in Louisville in the 1970s, unite for the 1980s. Sun., Dec. 7, 4:30 p.m. Plymouth Congregational Church, 1630 W. Chestnut St. Ausp: Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression and Plymouth Congregational Church. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

### MICHIGAN DETROIT

**GOVERNMENT SPYING EXPOSED: VICTORY AGAINST MICHIGAN RED SQUAD!** Speakers: Leonard Grossman, American Civil Liberties Union; Janet Goldwasser, plaintiff in Red Squad Suit; Richard Skutt, Michigan Legal Services; Maurice Geary, Socialist Workers Party. Sun., Dec. 7, 7 p.m. 6404 Woodward. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (313) 875-5322.

### MINNESOTA TWIN CITIES

**THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM IN GUATEMALA.** Speaker: Julio Quan, Fulbright scholar,

visiting professor at Hamline University, professor at National University in Guatemala. Sun., Dec. 7, 4 p.m. 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Twin Cities Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

**SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL WEEKEND.** Sat.-Sun., Dec. 13-14, 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Sat., Dec. 13, 6 p.m. Social Hour. 7 p.m. Caribbean Feast. 8 p.m. Grenada slide show. 8:30 p.m. "How to Fight Reaganism." Speaker: representative of Socialist Workers Party.

Sun., Dec. 14, two talks by Peter Seidman, SWP National Committee member. 1 p.m. "The Iranian Revolution Today." 3 p.m. "Zionism vs. the Arab Revolution." Donation for week-end, including Caribbean Feast: \$6. Ausp: Twin Cities Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

### NEW JERSEY NEWARK

**NICARAGUA: EYEWITNESS REPORT.** Slide and film showings. Speaker: Larry Pitts, railroad worker, United Transportation Union Local 800, recently toured Nicaragua. Sat., Dec. 6, 8 p.m. 11-A Central Ave., near Broad St. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (201) 643-3341.

### OREGON PORTLAND

**GRENADE: THE BLACK REVOLUTION IN THE CARIBBEAN.** Speaker: Joseph Kanute Burke, Grenadian Consul General for North America. Mon., Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m. King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 NE. 7th. Ausp: Black United Front, Portland Central America Solidarity Committee, Militant Bookstore. Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

### PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

**A CONFERENCE IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE REVOLUTIONS IN THE CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL AMERICA.** Sat.-Sun., Dec. 6-7. University of Pennsylvania, Stetler Hall, 37th and Locust. Sat., Dec. 6, 1 p.m. "Cuba: Its Revolutionary Role." Speaker: Richard Fawkes, Young Socialist Alliance. 3:30 p.m. "Nicaragua: The Challenge of Revolution," slide show prepared by members of the Coalition for a Free Nicaragua.

Sun., Dec. 7, 1 p.m. "Grenada and Jamaica: Which Way for the Caribbean Revolution?" Speaker: Ernest Harsch, staff writer for *Intercontinental Press*. 3:30 p.m. "El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala: The Growing Civil War." Speakers: Janet Melvin, spent two years teaching in Hondu-

ras, also member of Coalition for a Free Nicaragua; representative from Central America Working Group; José Acevedo, Young Socialist Alliance; slide show on "El Salvador: A Country in Crisis." Donation: \$5 for entire conference; \$1.50 per session. Ausp: YSA. For more information call (215) 927-4747.

### MINNEAPOLIS U.S. OUT OF EL SALVADOR

Speakers: Waubun-Inini (Vernon Bellecourt), representative, Council in Internal Affairs, American Indian Movement.

Others: Fri., Dec. 5, 7 p.m. Benefit dance after rally. University Lutheran Center, 1101 University Ave., S.E. Rally/Dance advance ticket \$2.50. Ausp: Central American Working Group, Social Issues Committee, University Lutheran Center. For more information call (612) 739-6235.



## DOONESBURY

### Klan-Nazi violence

It was announced last night that all five defendants in the Klan-Nazi murder case were innocent. Here we have self-declared fascists, white supremacists, and racists shown on film brutally gunning down five communists, and yet they were found innocent!

I'm sure it would be different if it had been the CWP [Communist Workers Party] members doing the shooting. They would have been in the gas chamber within a matter of weeks.

The threat of concentrated Klan-Nazi violence is becoming more apparent every day, with the Klan setting up commando camps, supposedly for defense, possibly to defend themselves against their favorite targets—the unarmed elderly and children under twelve.

With the Klan expanding and getting support from the U.S. government, it is a relief to see publications such as the *Militant* and *Young Socialist* trying to inform the American workers of the evils of capitalism.

Keep up the good work.  
P.W.  
Lake Worth, Florida

### Delaware write-in

I just read an interesting article from the *Wilmington News Journal* on write-in votes in the recent election. In New Castle County, where Reagan beat Carter by one vote, the names of Walter Cronkite, Richard Nixon, Menachem Begin, and a Newark rock star turned up in the presidential tally.

For state and local offices voters wrote in, among others, Mickey Mouse, members of the rock groups Jefferson Airplane and Hot Tuna, and Philadelphia Phillies first-baseman Pete Rose.

The article also reported write-in vote totals for the Citizens Party (96) and the Communist Party (14).

Socialist Workers Party vote totals were not mentioned—they overlooked two at least. If they can count Mickey Mouse, how come they can't count Pulley and Zimmermann?

Also, they must have concealed a fair-sized vote for



Workers World; they campaigned fairly heavily in Wilmington.

K.B. Inglee  
Wilmington, Delaware

### MEChA reader

As a member and officer of MEChA, I find it a necessity to read the *Militant*. One must be aware of what's really going on in the world, and through the *Militant* I've become much more aware of the injustices being done. I look forward to each issue to be able to inform other Mechistas within the club of what's going on.

Also, I've been very concerned about Héctor Marroquín's request for political asylum. Can you inform me as to his current status (progress) in his struggle for political asylum?

I'm also writing because I know the *Militant* has a special subscription fund for prisoners. I have a friend who would very much enjoy receiving the *Militant*. His name and address is enclosed.

Thank you very much.  
L.M.  
Long Beach, California

[In reply—On February 25, Héctor Marroquín appealed an April 1979 ruling by Immigration and Naturalization Judge James Smith that he be deported. His appeal for political asylum is still pending.]

### S. Africa team unwelcome

Unified action led to a victory here—cancellation of a visit by a South African

gymnastic team to an exhibition and national competition planned by the local gymnastic club, the Parkettes, for the end of November.

Because my daughter was a member of the local club, we learned of the visit late in October. After an attempt to present the facts and get a reconsideration of the invitation, we put together and started to circulate a petition, which also asked for a reconsideration of their decision.

A letter was sent to the Parkettes from the Easton NAACP committee, formed to have the event cancelled, requesting a meeting. Another letter from the American Coordinating Committee for Equality in Sports (ACCESS) warned of the possible consequences of participating in a sporting event with South Africa, including difficulty in obtaining visas to attend foreign competitions.

Petitions were being circulated at the Pennsylvania National Organization for Women conference, among other places.

On November 8, citing "pressures from various national committees and agencies," the Parkettes withdrew their invitation to the South Africans.

However, this team continues its plan to visit other cities in the U.S.—so far, to my knowledge, unannounced.

Dennis Brutus of the South African Nonracial Olympic Committee said that when trying to prevent South African participating in a golf tournament in Hawaii, he had tried to warn the South

Africans that their policies would become known in every little town and village around the world. They have.

Deborah White  
Allentown, Pennsylvania

### Assured of victory

I extend to you sincere thanks for providing me with the weekly issue of the *Militant*.

I praise the *Militant* staff, journalists and writers who, in defiance of repression and threats, valiantly expose the crimes of U.S. imperialism in the world.

I would like today to send warm greetings to all Puerto Ricans and all persons who have taken part in the struggle for freedom and total independence for Puerto Rico. I consider that both the legitimate and clandestine movements are of a nature to stop Washington's influence in government and withdrawal of U.S. troops from Puerto Rico. Ultimately, independence.

I am firmly self-assured that with the solidarity and courage of the oppressed and enslaved our struggle against imperialism will end in total victory.

A prisoner  
Illinois

### Bach as improviser

I like jazz and have a lot of respect for Max Roach, but I think his contention that "European classical music is the music of imperialism" is a one-sided view. He mentions Bach in particular and contrasts the rigid structure of

classical music with the freedom and "democracy" of jazz improvisation.

Bach, it so happens, was one of the greatest improvisers of all time. According to Douglas Hofstadter in *Godel, Escher, Bach*, "no one disputed Bach's ability to improvise on the organ. In those days, being an organist not only meant being able to play, but also to extemporize, and Bach was known far and wide for his remarkable extemporizations."

Bach was asked to play for Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, in 1747. The king "hummed a few bars" and asked Bach to improvise on the tune. King Frederick was later reported to have said that Bach "on the spot had made of it a fugue in four parts, then in five parts, and finally in eight parts."

Hofstadter thinks this must be an exaggeration: "One could probably liken the task of improvising a six-part fugue to the playing of sixty simultaneous blindfold games of chess, and winning them all. To improvise an eight-part fugue is really beyond human capability." Nonetheless, the story reveals Bach's reputation for improvisation.

Max Roach may object that the music of Bach (among others) is often presented today in an ossified, lifeless, "imperialist" way. But there is a revolutionary quality inherent in the music that can still be appreciated—just as we can still be inspired by the American revolution even though it produced the state that has evolved into American imperialism.

Cliff Conner  
New York, New York

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ARIZONA: Phoenix: SWP, YSA, 1243 E. McDowell. Zip: 85006. Tel. (602) 255-0450.

CALIFORNIA: Oakland: SWP, YSA, 2864 Telegraph Ave. Zip: 94609. Tel. (415) 763-3792. Los Angeles: SWP, YSA, 2211 N. Broadway. Zip: 90031. Tel. (213) 225-3126. San Diego: SWP, YSA, 1053 15th St. Zip: 92101. Tel. (714) 234-4630. San Francisco: SWP, YSA, 3284 23rd St. Zip: 94110. Tel. (415) 824-1992. San Jose: SWP, YSA, 201 N. 9th St. Zip: 95112. Tel. (408) 998-4007.

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MINNESOTA: Mesabi Iron Range: SWP, YSA, 1012 2nd Ave. South, Virginia, Minn. Send mail to P.O. Box 1287. Zip: 55792. Tel. (218) 749-6327. Twin Cities: SWP, YSA, 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Zip: 55104. Tel. (612) 644-6325.

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OHIO: Cincinnati: SWP, YSA, 2531 Gilbert Ave. Zip: 45206. Tel. (513) 751-2636. Cleveland: SWP, YSA, 2230 Superior. Zip: 44114. Tel. (216) 579-9369.

Toledo: SWP, YSA, 2120 Dorr St. Zip: 43607. Tel. (419) 536-0383.

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RHODE ISLAND: Providence: YSA, P.O. Box 1322. Arfex Station. Zip: 02901.

TEXAS: Austin: YSA, c/o Mike Rose, 7409 Berkman Dr. Zip: 78752. Dallas: SWP, YSA, 5442 E. Grand. Zip: 75223. Tel. (214) 826-4711. Houston: SWP, YSA, 806 Elgin St. #1. Zip: 77006. Tel. (713) 524-8761. San Antonio: SWP, YSA, 1406 N. Flores Rd. Zip: 78212. Tel. (512) 222-8398.

UTAH: Salt Lake City: SWP, YSA, 677 S. 7th East. 2nd Floor. Zip: 84102. Tel. (801) 355-1124.

VIRGINIA: Tidewater Area (Newport News): SWP, YSA, 111 28th St. Zip: 23607. Tel. (804) 380-0133.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: SWP, YSA, 3106 Mt. Pleasant St. NW. Zip: 20010. Tel. (202) 797-7699. Baltimore-Washington District: 3106 Mt. Pleasant St. NW, Washington, D.C. Zip: 20010. Tel. (202) 797-7021.

WASHINGTON: Olympia: YSA, Room 3208. The Evergreen State College. Zip: 98501. Tel. (206) 866-7332. Seattle: SWP, YSA, 4868 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118. Tel. (206) 723-5330.

WEST VIRGINIA: Morgantown: SWP, YSA, 957 S. University Ave. Zip: 26505. Tel. (304) 296-0055.

WISCONSIN: Milwaukee: SWP, YSA, 3901 N. 27th St. Zip: 53216. Tel. (414) 445-2076.



# THE MILITANT

## Women unionists say: 'Organize the unorganized' CLUW conference meets in Dallas

By Suzanne Haig

"You are the new frontier of the labor movement. You have the wherewithal to lead the labor movement in this new era . . . an era of revitalized and invigorated organizing."

Elmer Chatak, secretary-treasurer of the Industrial Union Department (IUD), AFL-CIO, made these remarks to some 400 trade union women and men from the Coalition of Labor Union Women. They had gathered in Dallas, Texas, November 14-16 for a national conference on organizing the unorganized.

Women came from CLUW chapters across the country, from Indiana to California to Florida. More than 30 percent of the participants were Black.

Twenty-nine international unions were represented, from the United Steelworkers of America to the Communications Workers of America.

The women present were local officers of their unions, shop stewards, organizers, women's committee members, and rank-and-file members. A number had marched against the Ku Klux Klan in Greensboro, North Carolina, and for the Equal Rights Amendment in Richmond, Virginia, and Chicago.

The conference took place in the wake of the victory of the J.P. Stevens workers in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. On October 20, after a long and bitter struggle, they forced the company to sign a contract with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union.

The spirit of that victory was in evidence throughout the conference. Crystal Lee Sutton, the union organizer whose life was portrayed in the movie *Norma Rae*, was personally honored at a Friday night reception.

CLUW also gave a show of its muscle in Dallas at 6 a.m. Saturday morning, when many of the participants joined the picket line of the Allied Industrial Workers at a nearby factory.

The strikers, mostly women, were elated by the presence of so many supporters, and four immediately joined CLUW.

The scabs and managers reacted with an equal but opposite emotion.

The idea for this conference came from last year's CLUW convention and was concretized at a joint meeting on union organizing held last January by CLUW and the IUD.

The compelling need to organize women workers was addressed by speakers and participants. There are today approximately 41 million work-



Crystal Lee Sutton, union organizer whose life was portrayed in the movie 'Norma Rae,' gives victory sign at CLUW conference. Some 400 CLUW members came to Dallas from across country.



Militant/Suzanne Haig

ing women, but only 6 million are organized. Women make on the average fifty-nine cents to every dollar earned by men, because for the most part they are shuttled into low-paying, sex-segregated jobs.

As Martin Gerber, United Auto Workers vice-president explained, "These jobs are low paying because they are unorganized."

Organizing women into unions as a fundamental part of the fight for women's rights is one side of the battle for unionization. Elmer Chatak cited another: "the decreasing percentage of organized workers in the work force—now 24 to 25 percent," which strengthens the employer's hand over all workers.

Women, because they are among the most exploited, will play a leading role in strengthening the labor movement at a time when the employers are on the prod.

Workshops covered major questions of union organizing. Topics included: undocumented workers; the South; industrial organizing; clerical, retail, and hospital workers; union decertification; union busting; organizing in "right to work" states; corporate campaigns; CLUW chapters and organizing; and many more.

In the workshop on the South, Vicki Saporta, cochair of CLUW's committee on organizing the unorganized, told of her experiences in organizing for the Teamsters in North Carolina.

In the industrial organizing workshop, United Steelworkers Vice-president Leon Lynch talked about the successful campaign in Newport News, Virginia, where 16,000 shipyard workers were organized. Lynch reported that the USWA was currently active in a drive to organize 80,000 DuPont workers, primarily in the South.

### 'A new labor movement'

Leni-Anne Zibor, a member of New Jersey CLUW and a volunteer organizer for the International Union of Electrical Workers, said that "a new labor movement is needed to organize now. The old methods will not work. Women will play a major role because they are inspired to take this on."

CLUW's president, Joyce Miller, called for regional conferences on organizing the unorganized. New Jersey, Michigan, and Texas CLUW chapters, inspired by the conference, announced they would hold state meetings next March and April on organizing.

The need to build CLUW was stressed by Miller. "We are the most viable and established organization representing working women and union women in the United States, and future actions can only take place if our membership grows."

CLUW currently has forty-six chapters and 12,000 members. Ninety women at the conference joined CLUW.

Leon Lynch said, "CLUW is the organization that the USWA will always support, not only financially, but also in trying to get more of our female members involved as members of CLUW—and male as well."

Also stressed was the need for an alliance with other women's groups and organizations that support the unions' goals. Sara Nelson, chair of the National Organization for Women's national labor task force spoke on the work NOW has been doing with the unions.

### 'Tremendous spirit'

A mood of militancy pervaded the conference. "There is a tremendous spirit out there, which I think will transfer back into the workplaces," was the way Leon Lynch described it during the luncheon rally.

Clara Day, a CLUW vice-president, and member of the Teamsters, called the conference "a shot in the arm for women in the labor movement."

"Like a seed, this will grow in the trade union movement itself. It will give a boost not only to women struggling but to the trade union struggle in a crucial time."

Carly Dixon, a new union rep from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and a relay assembler at Western Electric in Omaha, Nebraska, said, "Every woman should come to a conference like this. You get a lot of backbone."

## Antidraft group calls January protest actions

During the week of January 5-10—two weeks before Ronald Reagan's inauguration—millions of men born in 1962 are scheduled to register for the draft at post offices across the country. Also beginning in January, all men are required to register within thirty days of their eighteenth birthday.

The National Coalition Against Registration and the Draft (CARD) is urging its local chapters to build post office protest actions, picket lines, and press conferences for that week.

Washington, D.C., and Baltimore CARD have called a December 4 meet-

ing in D.C. to plan a counter-inaugural demonstration there Saturday, January 17. Women's rights, antinuclear, Central American solidarity, and Black groups are also involved in the plans.

National CARD has issued a call for a national antidraft conference February 14-16 in Detroit to plan for future national, regional and local actions.

This conference will be the next major step to involve labor, Blacks, students, and women in building the kind of movement necessary to stop

the draft.

While Reagan claims to oppose peacetime draft registration, a Selective Service spokesperson stated November 7 that the agency was going ahead with preparations. Sen. John Tower has let it be known that the Senate probably will not repeal Carter's registration edict.

Reagan's support for tacking on another \$3 billion to Carter's record \$157.5 billion 1981 arms budget, his opposition to aid to Nicaragua, and his statements in support of Central Amer-

ican military dictatorships all point toward the threat of U.S. military intervention and reinstatement of the draft.

But contrary to the ballyhoo from the press and politicians, Reagan has not won a mandate from the American people to prepare this country for war. The next few months will be an opportunity to show this in action.

For further information on the upcoming antidraft actions, contact CARD, 201 Massachusetts Avenue N.E. #111, Washington, D.C. 20002. Telephone: (202) 547-4340.